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THE
HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES
Eynesbury and St. Neot's
Eynesbury and St. Neot's,
IN HUNTINGDONSHIRE;

AND OF
St. Neot's
IN THE COUNTY OF CORNWALL:

WITH SOME CRITICAL REMARKS RESPECTING THE TWO SAXON
SAINTS FROM WHOM THESE PLACES DERIVED
THEIR NAMES.

(ILLUSTRATED WITH FIFTY ENGRAVINGS, ON COPPER AND WOOD.)

BY
GEORGE CORNELIUS GORHAM, M. A.
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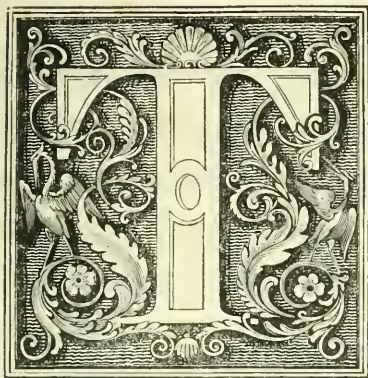
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PREFACE.



HAT those persons who “ dwell in the sight of remarkable Monasteries” should endeavour to “ rescue the observables of their habitations from

the teeth of time and oblivion”, was the judicious advice, happily illustrated by the example, of no mean Historian^a.—The Writer of the following sheets has been beguiled, almost insensibly, into the spirit and practice of this recommendation. Notwithstanding the popular (and occasionally just) ridicule

^a Thomas Fuller ; Waltham Abbey, p. 5; edit. 1655.

which is directed by the multitude against Antiquarian pursuits,—he confesses that he is not unsusceptible of that enthusiasm, which impels the mind to cast a retrospect through the “long-drawn” vista of past ages ; to dwell, with a solemn and mysterious interest, on objects which are rapidly fading away in the distant perspective ; and to dissipate some little portion of the gathering mist, which mantles between the land of oblivion and the region of authentic record. Under such an influence he commenced his inquiries ; but without even a remote intention of submitting them to the public eye. He purposely omits to detail the unimportant train of circumstances, by which his materials have been gradually extended from the private memoranda of a port-folio to their present more enlarged and ostensible form. The public is rather interested with the nature and result of an Author’s pursuit, than with the incidents by which he was originally invited to his undertaking, and the steps by which he

has at length been conducted to the termination of his task.

A History of the town of ST. NEOT's, including the adjoining (and parent) village of EYNESBURY, in HUNTINGDONSHIRE, constitutes the principal subject of this Volume (Chapter I. ; Chapter II. § 11. ; Chapter III, Chapter IV.). In pursuing this investigation, the Author has travelled along an almost untrodden path: the *Monastic History* of ST. NEOT's has received but little illustration from the labors of Dugdale or of Bishop Tanner; its *Topography* has been altogether unexplored. The information which the following pages present—sustained by perpetual references to the most antient Documents, and confirmed by many original (and hitherto unpublished) Records, dispersed throughout the notes or inserted in the Appendix—is the result of labor and expense with which the size of the Volume is by no means commensurate. In the use which he

has made of his materials, he has not *merely* endeavoured to gratify local curiosity: his aim has been higher, and he has failed in his attempt if his Work be considered as unworthy a place in the Library of the Antiquarian Collector. However limited has been the field of his investigation, he ventures to entertain a hope that his Work will not be altogether an unacceptable offering; when considered as the *first-fruits* of researches into the Antiquities of a County *still* without an Historian, although two Centuries and a half have elapsed since it gave birth to the most celebrated Collector of our national Records—"its brightest^b ornament"—Sir Robert Bruce Cotton!

From the more immediate subject of local Antiquities, some little digression has been

^b The remark is *still* correct, that "no steps have been taken towards illustrating Huntingdonshire, since Sir Robert Cotton, its brightest ornament, declined the pursuit." Gough's British Topography, Vol. I. Pref. p. xi. edit. 1780.

made (in Chapter II. § I.) to the Biography of the SAXON SAINT whose name is perpetuated in that of the town. The very obscure and contradictory information, which is to be obtained from either antient or modern Writers, respecting ST. NEOT, might alone be considered as a sufficient reason for an inquiry into the accuracy or falsehood of preceding statements. Since the time of Camden and of Wood, the simple authority of those truly great names has been a ready passport (with less diligent Writers) for assertions derived from MSS. of suspected authority or from Records of doubtful age. *One* learned modern Writer^c has, indeed, pursued a line of independent investigation : but, in his eccentric (however original) Volume, fable is perpetually intermingled with fact, and dogmatical assertion too often substituted for modest inquiry. A strict scrutiny into the unsustained positions to which allusion has just been

^c The late Mr. Whitaker ; Life of St. Neot, edit. 1806.

made, necessarily leads to their rejection. The materials for a Biography of NEOT thus become reduced to a few simple facts; and we are constrained to awake from the pleasing delusion, by which the events of his life have been closely connected with a remarkable period of British Annals. If the criticisms in pp. 20—26, and in pp. 41—44, be correct, he will no longer appear in the venerable character of “the first Theological Professor at Oxford”; dispensing his pious instructions to that Infant University: nor will he be encircled with the fictitious glory which imagination has shed around “the oldest Brother of Alfred the Great”; renouncing the ambitious bustle and splendid occupations of the Court, for the devotional retirement and self-denying services of the Cloister. What is lost, however, in *effect*, is gained in *accuracy*: the threads of a false association having been withdrawn, the tissue of History may possibly have been deprived of some gaudy colors; but her dress exhibits

a more becoming (though less ostentatious) texture.

These criticisms respecting the Life of NEOT, naturally led to some notice of the obscure CORNISH VILLAGE (see p. 29.) which was his principal abode ;—the sylvan retreat, where, as a Hermit, he dwelt in his mossy Cell ;—the secluded valley, where, as an Abbot, he founded his Monastery and erected his Collegiate Chapel. A brief sketch of the Topography of that parish has been added (see Chapter V.) ; with a more particular view to a description of its beautiful Church, dedicated to ST. NEOT.

The Author thankfully acknowledges the assistance which he has received during the progress of these inquiries. His gratitude is especially due to the Most Noble the Marquess of Buckingham, for access to a Cartulary of St. Neot's among the MSS. at Stowe ; and to the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop

of Lincoln, for permission to search the Archives of his Cathedral. To the Right Honorable the Countess De Grey, he is indebted for liberty to make an examination of the MSS. at Wrest; which, though not attended with the particular success anticipated, has at least enabled him to correct a mistake of Bishop Tanner (see p. 99 note r.), respecting a supposed Cartulary of St. Neot's erroneously ascribed to the Library of the Earls of Kent. He has peculiar pleasure in recording the liberal attentions of several professional and literary Gentlemen;—of J. Caley Esq., Keeper of the Records in the Augmentation Office, and in the Chapter House at Westminster;—of the late S. Lysons Esq., and of his successor H. Petrie Esq., Keeper of the Records in the Tower;—of Rev. B. Bandinel, Bodleian Librarian;—and of Rev. H. J. Todd, Keeper of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Records at Lambeth;—by whom his access to the MSS. in the several Collections, of which they are the guardians, has been materially

facilitated. He is not unmindful of his obligations to J. Simmons Esq. of Paddington House, for the use of his MSS. escheats &c. for Huntingdonshire;—to E. Lodge Esq., Lancaster,—and to the late F. Townsend Esq., Windsor Herald;—to T. F. Forster Esq. of Clapton, for some MSS. notes relating to the stained glass of St. Neot's in Cornwall;—to Rev. J. Bean of the British Museum;—to Rev. Dr. O'Connor, the Librarian at Stowe;—and to many other persons, whose kind offices have not been solicited (nor, he trusts, bestowed) in vain.

The Copper-plates (pp. i, 75, 91, 92, 142, 148, 161, 169, 170,) have been executed after large drawings, from the pencil of Mr. Harraden, in the possession of the Author: the diminutive scale of the Engravings is, doubtless, much to be regretted; this has been the unavoidable consequence of an arrangement essential to their introduction, and the result of considerations which would have

fully justified their total suppression. Of the Reliefs on Wood (chiefly outlines), those in pp. 13, 80, 110, 150, 151, 153, 154, 155, 159, 165, 170, 237, 238, 245, are from the graver of Mr. Branston : those in pp. 11, 86, 109, 146, 156, 161, 163, 250, 251, 253, 254, 255, are from the tool of Mr. Hughes. The Initial Letters (pp. iii, 1, 20, 105, 136, 229, 249,) are specimens of the taste of the former Artist :—should the promise of excellence, which is held forth by such ornamental introductions to the successive portions of this Work, be in any degree sustained by its general character, the Author will ascribe his good fortune rather to the candor of his Readers than to his own merit.

St. Neot's, Huntingdonshire,
28 January, 1820.

CORRECTIONS.

- Page 38, line 3, *for* St. David's, *read* Sherborne.
- 54, 1, 2, *for* Earl Ægelwin, *read* Duke Ailwyn.
- 55, 25, *for* cetu, *read* cœtu.
- 69, 8, *for* 198*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*, *read* 225*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*
note r, for Edw. II., *read* Edw. I.
- 71, 26, *for* Tower, *read* Chapter House.
- 83, 10, *for* 1244, *read* 1245.
 26, *for* m. 10. (back), *read* m. 13. (back) [App.
 VI. ‡].
- 28, *for* Gasgoigne, *read* Gascoigne.
- 85, 25, *for* Frewelove, *read* Trewelove.
- 87, 26, *for* Mary, *read* Marye.
- 89, 28, *for* Tower, *read* Chapter House.
- 95, 18, *for* Gibbert, *read* Gilbert.
- 102, 13, *for* St. David's, *read* Sherborne.
- 104, 14, *for* Tower, *read* Chapter House.
- 115, 1, *after* 17*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, *insert the reference and note**
- 122, 15, *for* Century XII., *read* Century XIII.
- 152, 10, *for* early part, *read* first year.
 11, *for* between 1558—1581 (see p. 170.) *read*
 in August 1559, (see p. 171.)
- 174, 3, *for the reference* (m), *read* (n).
- 176, 31, *for* p. 215, *read* p. 216.
- 189, 7, *for* Chronciler, *read* Chronicler.
- 193, 11, *for* had, *read* has.
- 210, 6, *for the reference* (l), *read* (i).
- 254, 32, *for* p. 100, *note s, read* p. 101, *note u.*
- 256, 16, *for* ȝodȝpelle, *read* ȝodȝpelle.
- 259, 42, *for* Ðænb, *read* Wænb.
 43, *for* þop, *read* þop.
- 286, 23, *for* xiiij, *read* xiiij.
- 288, 19, *for* Corrodo, *read* Corrodio.
- 292, 29, *for* CARTE, *read* CARTÆ.
- 298, 29, *for* Bartholemew, *read* Bartholomew.
- 329, 38, *for* arc', *read* acr'.

* This, however, included the portion of the Prior of St. Neot's, and the pension of the Prior of Newnham; the portion of the Rector of Eynesbury being only 10*l.*

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CHAPTER I.

On the early History of Eynesbury, previous
to the foundation of the Priory of St. Neot.

§ I.

CONJECTURES RESPECTING EYNESBURY IN ROMAN TIMES.



THE village of EYNESBURY, and the contiguous town of ST. NEOT'S, are situated upon the E. bank of the Ouse, in the County of Huntingdon. From the middle of Century VIII. to the latter part of Century X., *both* these

places were included in the common designation, EYNESBURY. If a village existed here in still earlier times, it was probably called BURY or BURG.

Whether, indeed, this spot was inhabited in a more remote period, is a question which can only be resolved by probable conjecture, or by inferences drawn from the discovery of antiquities

calculated to throw light upon so obscure an investigation. It is, perhaps, reasonable to imagine, that a situation by the ford of a considerable River, possessing therefore advantages both of a civil and military character, would not be overlooked by the early British settlers; especially as this district is known to have been inhabited by the Iceni, a powerful and warlike tribe.

That Eynesbury was occupied as a post of defence, if not inhabited as a town, during the period of Roman sway in Britain, appears highly probable, from circumstantial evidence. Such an opinion rests upon the following reasons: the existence of a Roman Road within the parishes of St. Neot's and Eynesbury; indistinct traces of a Summer-Camp, in the vicinity of this Road; and the occurrence of decided Roman Antiquities.

ROMAN ROAD.

A Roman Road unquestionably passes through both these parishes. The Itinerary of Richard of Cirencester, and that of Antonine, are both, it is true, silent with regard to such a Roman way: but it is universally admitted that those works point out only a limited number of the roads and stations which occur in Britain.—The Road alluded to is that which connected the stations of Sandy (*Salenæ*^a) and Godmanchester (*Durolipons*^b). That

^a The Σαλγγαι of Ptolemy; and probably the *Salinæ* of the Anonymous Geographer of Ravenna.

^b The *Durolipons* of Antonine (though placed by Horsley at

such a Roman Street existed was first suggested by Professor Mason of Cambridge. In 1791, Rev. T. Leman, of Bath, satisfactorily traced it from Chesterton on the Ivel (the site of the Roman town *Salenæ*), as far as the parish of Eynesbury^c: the line has since been distinctly pursued through the parish of St. Neot's, and thence to *Durolipons*, the station on the Ouse at Godmanchester. Our present business is merely with that part of this Road which lies within the two parishes above-mentioned.

Having passed close to a Tumulus^d on Crane-Hill, it abuts upon the parish of Eynesbury, precisely at its most S. point, at Drewel's-Lane (a part of the road from Eynesbury to Potton) which it crosses, bearing N.N.E. Leaving the manor farm of Puttock's-Hardwick and Lansbury grounds a little on the W., it forms the boundary between Eynesbury and Abbotsley parishes. After having crossed the road from Eynesbury to Abbotsley, and the small stream called Hen-Brook at the bottom of the valley, it constitutes the limit between the parishes of St. Neot's and Eynesbury. Following the track of Hail-Lane, it leaves the manor farm of Caldecot and the hamlet of Weald on the E., and

Cambridge) is now decidedly fixed at Godmanchester or Huntingdon, as originally conjectured by Camden and Gale.

^c Information of Rev. T. Leman.

^d Near Highfield Farm. This Tumulus, formerly planted with trees, was called the Hen-and-Chickens. Since 1791 it has been levelled, and its site is not now known.

the two Wintringhams on the W. It crosses the turnpike road, from St. Neot's to Cambridge, close by the village of Weald; the main road being cut off from its course, and forming an elbow of about 200 yards upon the very line of the Roman Street. The old moated farm of Monks'-Hardwick is about one mile to the W. of its course. Crossing Gallow-Brook, the N. boundary of the two parishes, it bears nearly N. E. towards Godmanchester. The extreme length of its course through these two parishes is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It is not to be distinguished by an elevated crest: the country being open, and the soil a stiff clay, the repeated action of the plough has completely obliterated its former character; it consequently presents to the eye nothing more than an ordinary field track.

ROMAN CAMP?

About half a mile W. of this Road, near the farm of Monks'-Hardwick, in St. Neot's parish, are some indistinct Earth-Works, which have been supposed to be traces of a Roman Camp. The enclosure in which it is situated is called "Further High Field." The spot is the most elevated in the neighbourhood; it commands a view of the ford of the Ouse at Eynesbury at the distance of two miles, and of the vale of that River towards Bedford. A small stream, called Fox-Brook, flows

about 400 yards from its S. boundary ; the ground declines, from the supposed Encampment to this stream, by a very gentle slope. It is equally distant from the stations *Salenæ* and *Durolipons*, being $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from each. These remains were first examined, in 1796, by Rev. B. Hutchinson^e of Holywell. In that year the ground had been ploughed up ; notwithstanding which, “the line of the Intrenchment, and five or six Tumuli,” were (according to Mr. H.) well defined. Since that time, the attrition of the plough, and the leveling effects of agricultural labor for 22 years, have almost obliterated the original character of this spot. On the N. and W. sides, however, detached portions of a Vallum may be traced, running into the hedge-rows ; on the S., the boundary is scarcely discernible ; on the E. it is altogether obliterated. The dimensions of this Intrenchment appear to have been about 630 feet by 540. Within the area are faint remains of a great number of Tumuli^f. Adjacent to the middle of the W. side, but within the area, is an oblong space of 150 feet by 100 : it has been enclosed by a bank, except on the S. :—this may, possibly, have been the Prætorium.

These remains are now so nearly evanescent that they might be easily overlooked, even by the curious eye of an Antiquary, were it not certain

^e Hutchinson’s unpublished MS. on Huntingdonshire.

^f The vestiges of 18 may still be traced, by a slight elevation, and by the different color of the soil.

(from respectable testimony) that they were well defined, by a sufficiently bold elevation above the level of the open field, so lately as 1796.. It is not known that any antiquities have been discovered upon the spot; and, unless such should hereafter be noticed, the existing traces of these Earth-Works must be considered as of too indistinct and ambiguous a character to be decidedly referrible to a Roman origin. On the other hand, the vicinity of this supposed Intrenchment to a Roman Street gives some plausibility to the conjecture^g that it has been one of the *Castra Æstiva*; intended to overlook the ford of the Ouse at Eynesbury, and probably also to guard the adjoining Road.

ROMAN DEFENCE ON THE OUSE.

That there has been a Roman Work on the River at Eynesbury can scarcely be doubted. The site of this military post appears to have been a little S. W. of the present Church, close to the ford of the Ouse. It probably occupied a spot,

^g It has been thought expedient to notice Mr. H.'s conjecture, and to give a precise description of this spot, in order to direct attention to any antiquities which may *possibly* occur. Perhaps, however, these supposed military Earth-Works are merely the remains of some terraces, &c. formerly belonging to a residence in the hamlet of Monks'-Hardwick; which now consists only of two farms, but which formerly (as appears by the Cartulary of St. Neot's Priory) contained several dwellings.

at present known by the name of Eynesbury Cony-geer, which has been waste from time immemorial, and has long been worked as a gravel-pit. The bank rises abruptly from the Ouse, to a height inconsiderable in itself, but commanding with respect to the level of the surrounding meadows: its declivity has clearly been assisted by artificial means. The regular plan of this Encampment has been long since effaced. In the memory, however, of persons now living, lines of intrenchment were visible, within the area of which was an artificial mound^h, a favorite resort for village gambols; these have disappeared, or at least have ceased to retain any definite character, on account of the long-continued working of the soil for gravel.

Additional confirmation to the foregoing conjecture arises from the etymology of the name of this village; a source of evidence which is acknowledged to be of a subordinate kind, and to have no force except when combined with more decisive considerations. The early Saxon name

^h It is a popular legend, that a giant, stationed upon this hill, was accustomed to throw a weapon to another giant posted upon the Norman Keep on the River bank at Eaton (distant three-quarters of a mile), which was returned, in a similar way, by the latter. Vulgar tradition (however absurd) is generally formed around some nucleus of fact. Probably in this case, the tradition originated in the circumstance of there having been a military Defence at Eynesbury, as there certainly has been a Norman Earth-Work at Eaton.

of this place was, doubtless, BURG¹ or BURY; which, by later associations, was afterwards successively modified into EYNE'S-BURY, and NEOT'S-BURY^k, an appellation by which (for a time, at least), a part of the town was known. The name BURG was seldom given by our Saxon ancestors to any town which had not been the site of a fortress.

Decisive Roman Antiquities are not wanting to place these conclusions beyond all rational doubt. In the reign of Elizabeth coins were found here in great abundance. A writer of that age speaks of Eynesbury as, undoubtedly, a military Defence of the Romans¹. Upon this authority Mr. Reynolds,

¹ BURY, BURG, or BOROUGH, from the Saxon *Burġ*, a *town* or *citadel*; or *Beorġ*, a *rock* or *eminence*, the usual situation of ancient cities or military defences.

^k See Chapter IV. § II.

¹ "The *BOUROUGHES*, or *BURIES*, were certeine plots of ground wherin the Romane souldiers did use to lie when they kept in the open fields as chosen places, from whence they might have easie accesse unto their aduersaries if anie outrage were wrought and of these not a few remaine to be seene in our time In these, therefore, and such like, and likewise at *ENOLSBURG*, now *S. NEOT'S*, or *S. NEED'S*, and sundrie other places is much of their coine also to be found, and some peeces or other are dailie taken up, which they call *borow-pence*, *dwarf's-monie*, *heg's-pence*, *feirie-groats*, *Jewe's-monie*, and by other foolish names not woorthie to be remembred. At the comming of the Saxons the Britons used these holds as rescues for their cattell, &c."—Holinshed's Chronicle, Vol. I. p. 217, being the Description of England by William Harrison, Book II. Chap. xxiv. edit. 1586.

in his map of Roman-Britain (prefixed to his work on the Itinerary of Antonine), has annexed to St. Neot's the character Δ , as indicating that Roman Antiquities have been found there. It is to be regretted that the coins and other remains, which have occurred on this spot in abundance, have not fallen under the notice of any Antiquary. Within a few years Roman money has been repeatedly taken up by laborers; but, for want of the attention of some person interested in such researches, it has been dispersed without any *local* remarks. Among the few coins which recent inquiry has brought under observation, No. 1, No. 2, No. 4, and No. 5, may be positively assigned to the Encampment at Eynesbury or its vicinity. No. 3 was found in the parish; probably on the same spot.

1. Large brass :

Obverse. IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM
COS XI CENS PER P P (Imperator Cae-
sar Domitianvs Avgvstvs Germanicvs Con-
svl XI Censor Perpetvvs Pater Patriae), en-
circling

The Emperor's head crowned with laurel.

Reverse. ANNONA AVGVST (Annona Av-
gvsti), encircling

*Fortune, with a Cornucopia in her left hand,
standing before Ceres seated and holding a
torch; between the two, the prow of a ship,
and an altar supporting a corn-measure.*

S C (Senatvs Consvlto), in exergue.

Found in 1817 in Eynesbury Cony-geer, near the Ouse. It was probably struck in commemoration of one of the largesses which Domitian thrice gave to the people, on which occasions each man received 300 denarii and a basket of provisions^m.

2. Large brass of the Emperor ADRIAN, much defaced. Found in 1819 in Eynesbury Cony-geer.

3. Small brass :

Obverse. IMP C CARAVSIVS P F AV (Imperator Caesar Caravsius Pivs Felix Avgvstvs), encircling.

The Emperor's head crowned.

Reverse. PAX AVG (Pax Avgvsti).

A female holding a sprig of olive in her right hand, and the Hasta pura in her left.

F O (Flaminis Officinatorⁿ), in area.

Found in the parish some years since ; the precise spot uncertain. According to Stukeley's hypothesis^o this coin must have been struck Jan. 30, A. D. 291. It differs from all the 314 coins of Carausius engraved in his elaborate work ; but it nearly resembles Plate XVII. fig. 6.

^m Suetonius, Domit. Cap. IV.

ⁿ " The Official [for the mint] of the Flamen."—Stukeley.

^o Stukeley's Medallie Hist. of Carausius, Vol. I. p. 151.

4. Small brass : deposited in the British Museum :



Obverse. CONSTANTINVS IVN N C (Constantinus Iunior Nobilis Caesar), encircling
A half figure of the Emperor, crowned with laurel; armed with a coat-of-mail; bearing a spear and shield in his left hand; reining a horse^p with his right. On the shield, two figures joining their right hands.

Reverse. BEATA TRANQVILLITAS, encircling
An altar, inscribed with VOTIS XX, supporting a globe surmounted by three^a stars.

P T R and a crescent in exergue.

This votive coin, of which the Obverse is rare^r, was found at Eynesbury about 1797^s. As it does

^p Supposed, by some, to be a type of the Roman Empire ; but Ducange conceives that it is a symbol of the Circensian Games.

^a Supposed to be emblematical of the world preserved by the Gods for the three sons of Constantine the Great.

^r Banduri notices a similar coin of Constantinus Junior, (differing, however, by having the head of the Emperor helmeted, and TRO in exergue), which he designates as "*rarissimus ob typum capitis*" [Banduri Numismata, Vol. II. p. 336, note (1); and consult p. 314, note (2)].

^s Information of the late Dr. Abbot, of Bedford, from whose collection I received this coin.

not appear that this precise variety has been yet noticed^r, an engraving has been given in the preceding page.

5. Middle brass :

Obverse^t. D N MAGNENTIVS P F AVG
(Dominvs Noster Magnentivs Pivs Felix
Avgvstvs), encircling

The Emperor's head.

A in area.

Reverse. VICTORIAE DD NN AVG ET
CAE (Victoriae Dominorum Nostorum Av-
gvsti et Caesaris), encircling

*Two winged Victories supporting a wreath,
surmounted by the Christian monogram X
Within the wreath VOT V MVLX
(Votis V mvlis X).*

A M B a crescent and a star, in exergue.

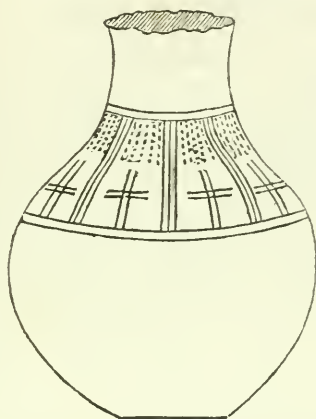
This votive coin was found about 1776, in Eynesbury Churchyard, five feet below the surface, on digging up an Elm tree^u.

Fragments of Roman pottery are frequently turned up on Eynesbury Cony-geer. They consist chiefly of an unbaked black or dark-blue clay, with very little ornament. Urns, of inferior workmanship, have also been found on the same spot :

^t The legend restored from, TIVS P F AVG.

^u Hutchinson's MS. on Huntingdonshire. Mr. H. conjectured that this coin was one of *Constan*TIVS, which is not the fact.

they have probably been sepulchral; although the fact of their having contained bones has not been ascertained. Of these Antiquities a single specimen (found in 1816) has hitherto been preserved. This Vessel has, probably, been a



cinerary Urn: it is of red pottery, of ordinary design; and has been moulded by the hand, instead of having been submitted to the lathe^v. Several Urns, of nearly the same form and dimensions, but devoid of pattern, were found a few years since in St. Neot's, in a field belonging to G. J. Gorham Esq., on the E. side of Huntingdon Street. They have been rudely formed by the hand, and are composed of unbaked clay.

^v It is now in the Public Library at Cambridge. The dimensions are; height 8 inches, greatest diameter 7, diameter of the mouth $2\frac{1}{2}$.

The mouth of each Urn was covered by a tile: it was not noticed whether bones or ashes were inclosed; but skeletons were dug up in the immediate neighbourhood. From the close resemblance which these Vessels bear to the fragments of unbaked pottery at Eynesbury, they may be referred, without doubt, to the same origin.

From the facts and circumstances stated above, it is no improbable conclusion that there existed a Roman Encampment on the Ouse at Eynesbury^w, and, perhaps, a town in its vicinity. Both of these might, possibly, have been overlooked by a Summer-Camp, near the Roman Road, at Monks'-Hardwick. At what period these Works (if such existed) were constructed, it is impossible to ascertain, unless further discoveries should throw light on such an inquiry. It may, however, be conjectured that the same measures of military policy which induced the Roman Proprætor, Ostorius Scapula, to form a chain of Camps upon the Nen^x, might lead him to construct Defences upon the Ouse. History informs us, that, after the Forts on the Nen had been constructed A. D. 50, the Iceni broke out into rebellion. After their defeat^y, Ostorius led the troops into N. Wales:

^w Perhaps this passage of the Ouse was upon a vicinal Roman way from Cambridge (*Camboritum*), to the Camp at Irchester on the Nen.

^x Tacitus, *Annal.* XII. 31.

^y The battle is supposed by Brotier. (not. in Tacit. *Annal.* XII.

it is improbable, however, that he should have withdrawn the mass of his army from the turbulent tribe which inhabited this district, without having constructed Defences, garrisoned with soldiers, for the purposes of overawing them, and of checking their future incursions. Perhaps the Ouse was at that period fortified (as the Nen had recently been), thus forming an advanced line of defence in front of the most inveterate enemies of the Roman power. Accordingly, we find either decided Stations, traces of Intrenchments, or other Roman Antiquities, at the following places on the Ouse, or its branches;—Sandy (*Salenæ*) on the Ivel, Eynesbury, Godmanchester (*Durolipons*²), and Holywell³; all of which posts are nearly at equal intervals, and would be well calculated to defend this River, as a barrier against the incursions of an enemy approaching the Nen from Cambridgeshire.

31.), to have been fought in Huntingdonshire; Mr. Gale (MS. note quoted in Gough's Camden, Vol. I. p. lxxx. edit. 1806), thinks it probable that the scene of action described by Tacitus was Vandalbury Camp, on the Gogmagog Hills, near Cambridge.

² Camden conceives that this is a corruption from *Dur-guipons*, the *Bridge* of the *River Ouse*.

³ Hutchinson's unpublished MS. on Huntingdonshire.

§ II.

CONJECTURES RESPECTING EYNESBURY IN SAXON TIMES.

No further conjectures, respecting the early History of EYNESBURY, can be rationally pursued, from the time of the declension of the Roman Empire in Britain, till the period in which this place received its present name; and even upon this point no very decisive information can be obtained.

The name of this place is written with a great many variations in the most ancient Records and Chronicles; they all, however, point decisively to its etymology. On a reference to such of these variations as are given in the margin^a, it will be evident, that EYNESBURY is a corruption of ERNULPH'S-BURY abbreviated into ERN'SBURY, or of AINULPH'S-BURY contracted into AIN'SBURY: the signification of the name is, consequently, ERNULPH'S BOROUGH, or AINULPH'S BOROUGH;—Ernulph, and Ainulph, being only different methods of writing the same name. Who was this ERNULPH, is a question to which no decisive answer can be returned. Fuller (without reference, however, to any authorities) asserts that he was

^a The following are the principal:—Ernulphiberia, Eynolvesberi, Eynolvesbyri, Elnophesbiry, Enulfesbery, Enulvesbiri, Enolvesbiri, Henulvesberi, Esnibiria.

of “the royal line of the old Britons^b.” It is more probable that he was a devout man, whose memory was venerated by our Saxon ancestors, and to whom some religious Edifice was dedicated at this place. The Jesuit Alford states, on the authority of some English Martyrology, that ERNULPH was a Confessor and Hermit, who, after having led a holy life, died A. D. 740; his name being perpetuated in the place where he dwelt, and his piety commemorated on 22 August^c. There was a Bishop of Metz of this name, who (having retired for the purpose of leading an eremitical life) died A. D. 640, and was buried in the Monastery of Remiremont on the Moselle, in Lorrain^d. The author above-quoted had formerly embraced the opinion that EYNESBURY received its name from *this* person; since the French Martyrology (he says) records a tradition, that the remains of the Bishop were translated to the neighbourhood of Bedford, and also appropriates the

^b Fuller’s Worthies, under Bedfordshire, p. 115. edit. 1652.

^c “A. D. 740.—Claudat hunc annum ARNULFUS Sanctus, Confessor et Eremita, qui in Scenorum [Icenorum] provincia, et Huntingdoniensi agro, tam pie vixit, tam pie ibidem mortuus est, ut loco nomen suum in argumentum sanctitatis reliquerit; ibi ubi hodie S. NEOTI oppidum visitur, et ARNULFSBURY, aut contractius EYNESBURY dicitur. In eo loco ARNULFUS, cum Deo plures annos fideliter servivisset, et multo virtutum odore provinciam impleisset, moritur anno 740, ut habet nostrum [Anglicanum] Martyrologium, ad 22 Augusti, ubi nomen ejus inter Sanctos legitur.” Alfordi Annales, Tom. II. p. 553. edit. 1663.

^d Mabillon, Acta Sanctorum, Secul. II. p. 156.

same day (22 August) for his commemoration, which is assigned by the English Martyrology to the British Saint*. If Catholic Annalists, sufficiently jealous for the honor of sainted remains, have been unable to disentangle these difficulties, it would be in vain for merely topographical curiosity to attempt their solution. Nevertheless, it may be observed that the argument adduced from the identity of the days of commemoration of the two ERNULPHS, is not correct: from *what* "French Martyrology" Alford quotes does not appear—it was possibly an incorrect and interpolated MS. copy—for all the *printed* Martyrologies assign either 18 July, or 16 August, to ERNULPH Bishop of Metz; the former being supposed the day of his death, and the latter of his translation to Re-

* "Quis AINULFUS fuerit aliquando a me dubitatum est: et semel opinabar eum intelligi, qui ARNULFUS Episcopus dicitur in Supplemento Martyrologii Gallicani: ubi ad 22 Augusti ita legitur; *Translatio Sancti ARNULPHI Episcopi: cujus corpus a Gallia tradunt in Angliam delatum, et apud Bedfordiam fuisse depositum.* Enimvero SANCTI NEOTI oppidum, in Bedfordiensis Provinciæ confinio, non procul est ab Urbe Principe. Verum in nostro [Anglicano] Martyrologio legitur ARNULPHUS alter, Confessor et Eremita, qui in Huntingdoniensi agro sanctitate claruit: et ab illo rectius oppidum appellatur, nam ibi sepultus dicitur. Quoniam vero utrumque Martyrologium in eundem diem conspirat ad cultum ejus, nimirum ad 22 Augusti, unus forte idemque Sanctus censendus: et disputent alii, an Episcopus e Gallia fuerit; an vero e Britanno sanguine ortus, in Anglia natus, et defunctus, ut Fasti nostri affirmant." Alfordi Annales, Tom. III. p. 189.

miremont. On the whole, it appears most natural to conclude, with the English Martyrology^f, that our ERNULPH (being commemorated on 22 August) was a pious Hermit different from the French Bishop; and (in defect of better evidence) we may acquiesce in Alford's original statement, that the former person lived and died in EYNESBURY, about the middle of Century VIII., bequeathing his name to the favorite spot where he had retired for the purpose of religious meditation.

^f As quoted by Alford (see the preceding notes).

CHAPTER II.

On the religious Houses dedicated to St. Neot in Cornwall and in Huntingdonshire.

§ I.

HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE OF ST. NEOT, IN CORNWALL.



EMOTE as are the two places which have been brought together in this Chapter, they are intimately connected by the narrative of their common patron Saint. In order to give a perspicuous account of the Monastic History of

Eynesbury, it will be necessary to contemplate the scene of the life and death of NEOT. For this purpose, retiring at present from Huntingdonshire, we shall pursue our inquiries in a distant corner of the kingdom.

Considerable obscurity hangs over the birth-place and the parentage of Neot. His Biographers

make contradictory statements upon these points; and some of their assertions are irreconcilable with decided historical facts. The father of Neot is variously stated to have been King of the East-Angles^a, King of the West-Angles [West-Saxons?] and of Kent^b, and Tetrarch of Kent^c. Respecting the name of his progenitor, there is a disagreement rather apparent than real: two Narratives^d conceal it; the other authorities (above quoted) state that Neot was the son of a King named FIDULF^e, EDULF^f, EDULPH^g, or ADULPH^h, which are merely orthographical varieties for ÆTHELWULPHⁱ.

These several testimonies disagree, it is true, as to the extent of the dominions which were subject to the royal father of Neot (a disagreement which proves nothing more than the carelessness or ignorance of the Writers respecting this particular

^a Life of Neot, MSS. Bodley 535. [App. II. 33.].

^b Life of Neot, MSS. Cotton Claudius A. V.—John de Tinmouth's *Historia Aurea*, MSS. Lambeth 12. [App. II. C.].—Tinmouth's *Sanctilogium*, MSS. Cotton Tiberius E. I.

^c Life of Neot, MSS. Magdalen College Oxford 53.

^d Lives of Neot: Anglo-Saxon Homily, MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV. [App. II. 32.];—MSS. Bodley 535. [App. II. 33.].

^e Life of Neot, MS. of the Abbey of Bec, published in *Acta Sanct.* Sec. IV. P. II. p. 324.

^f Life of Neot, MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.—John de Tinmouth's *Hist. Aurea*, MSS. Lambeth, 12. [App. II. C.].

^g John de Tinmouth's *Sanctilogium*, MSS. Cotton Tib. E. I.

^h Lives of Neot: MS. Conventual Library of St. Neot's, quoted in Leland's *Coll.* Vol. III. p. 11.;—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

ⁱ In ancient chronicles this name is also written ÆTHULPH, ADDELWLF, ÆDHULF, ATHULF, EADULF, &c.

point of History): they conspire, however, in the principal fact, that Neot was the son of King ETHELWULPH, and, consequently, the brother of Alfred the Great.

To reconcile this position with historical facts, is no easy if it be a possible task. The early Chronicles of English History inform us that Ethelwulph had four sons, Ethelbald, Ethelbert, Ethelred, and Alfred; who successively inherited the crowns of West-Saxony, and of Kent. He had also a son (born before these, and of a different mother) named Athelstan, upon whom he bestowed the Princedom of Kent; whilst he himself retained the Kingdom of West-Saxony. Every antient Record (with the exception of the Lives of Neot) is silent as to any other descendant of Ethelwulph.

Mr. Whitaker attempts to solve this difficulty, by hazarding a bold conjecture. His singular position is, that NEOT is to be identified with ATHELSTAN! In the year 851, Athelstan, when Prince of Kent, gained a splendid victory over the Danes at Sandwich. From that period this Prince disappears from the page of History; and William of Malmesbury^k (who wrote scarcely three Centuries later) confesses his ignorance of the manner in which Athelstan terminated his life. Mr. W. maintains that Athelstan “merges from

^k Malmesbury, De Gest. Regum, Lib. II. Cap. 2., in Saville Angl. Scrip. p. 37. edit. Franc. 1601.

our view in the person of NEOT." Disgusted with the sanguinary scenes which he had witnessed at the battle of Sandwich, he determined to renounce the world: having, therefore, resigned the crown of Kent to his brother Ethelbald, he retired to the Abbey of Glastonbury, and assumed the habit of a Monk. For the purpose of decidedly manifesting his relinquishment of former worldly distinctions, he changed the name of Athelstan for that of NEOT $\tau\omicron\varsigma$,¹ ("The Little One"), an appellation at once descriptive of his diminutive stature and of his spiritual lowliness^m.

To this bold theory a very powerful objection

¹ Mr. W. has brought forward some very curious and valuable information, to shew that the introduction of Greek terms was by no means unfrequent in Centuries VIII. and IX. —Whitaker's Life of Neot, pp. 85, 86.

^m For the statement of the whole argument, see Whitaker's Life of Neot, pp. 69—87. The principal *reasons* assigned, for the identity of Prince ATHELSTAN and St. NEOT, are:—1. That each is said to have been the son of Ethelwulph;—2. That in 851 Prince Athelstan disappears from the page of History, and that in the same year one Earl Athelstan, with the assent of Ethelwulph, gave some land together *with his body* to the Abbey of Glastonbury, of which St. Neot is known to have been a Monk;—3. that King Ethelwulph in 851 (in which Athelstan appears for the last time), made a grant of land to the same Abbey; and therefore, probably, on the entrance of his son into that Monastery. The first of these reasons is the only one which deserves consideration. The second is merely a grant of land on condition that the body of the donor should be *interred* in the Abbey. The third is a coincidence of dates by no means remarkable.

occurs. It is incredible that a prince of Kent, and an Heir to the throne of West Saxony, should have resigned his lofty worldly honors to assume the lowly habit of a Monk, and yet that so striking an example of pious feeling should have been buried in profound secrecy. The religious Order which received him within its Cloisters would doubtless have blazoned forth to the world so splendid a triumph of the Faith; and even though the Monks of Glastonbury had, from some mysterious motive, studied concealment, so remarkable an event must inevitably have obtained notoriety^a. The earliest Chronicles, however, are altogether silent with respect to such an event, on the part of the Prince; while the Monkish Narratives (though replete with laudatory matter) claim no such honor for the Saint^o.

^a A writer in the Eclectic Review [Vol. V. P. I. p. 311.] endeavours to evade this objection, by an hypothesis that Athelstan did not retire *voluntarily* from the Kingdom of Kent, but yielded to the force of circumstances. In 855 Ethelwulph went to Rome; during his absence his son Ethelbald seized on the government of Wessex; Ethelwulph, on his return, retired to the Kingdom of Kent, from which (according to this hypothesis) Athelstan receded from motives of political expediency, and devoted himself to a Monastic life. This supposition is ingenious, but by no means accounts for the silence of the Biographers of Neot. with respect to such a laudable act of filial piety.

^o Another objection to Mr. W.'s strange opinion, has been raised by an Anonymous Writer in the Gentleman's Magazine [Vol. for 1811. P. I. p. 615]:—John de Fordun declares that

Dismissing the theory of Mr. Whitaker, as untenable upon any principles of sober criticism, we may proceed to notice the opinion of Mr. Hals². Mr. H. asserts that Neot was the youngest son of Ethelwulph; and, that the name which he ultimately assumed was originally a mere distinction from that of his father, after whom he was called *ETHELWULPH NEOT*³, Ethelwulph the *Less* or Ethelwulph *Junior*. It must be admitted that the silence of History (with respect to the circumstance of Ethelwulph having had such a son) is less remarkable on the supposition that Neot, being the *youngest* member of the royal Family, never became (like his brothers) either Prince of Kent, or King of West-Saxony. On the other hand, this assertion, being unsupported by historical testimony, can only be considered as an ingenious conjecture.

The reputed royal birth of Neot must still, therefore, be considered as a very doubtful matter; being supported by no other direct testimony

(though the fact was unknown to William of Malmesbury, yet) it appears from various writings and from popular tradition, that Athelstan was slain in battle by Hungas King of the Picts. [Scotichronicon, Lib. IV. Cap. XIII.]. As however, John de Fordun wrote so recently as the close of Century XIV., his assertion respecting an event in Century IX., unsustained by authorities, may fairly be considered as questionable.

² Hals' MSS., quoted in some MS. Collections by Rev. Mr. Forster of Boconnoc.

³ The Grecism will not appear strange to those who are familiar with the Monkish Latin of that age. See note (1) p. 23.

than that of the Monks^r who wrote the Life of this Saint about Century XI. Some other Writers, however (though silent respecting the alleged descent from Ethelwulph), state that Neot was the near relative of Alfred the Great^s. Upon the whole it appears probable, that Neot was descended from a *collateral* branch of the royal House of West-Saxony; and that his zealous Biographers (either misled by the circumstance of his intimacy with his relative^t Alfred, or ensnared by the desire of enhancing the honor of the Saint), hastily pronounced him to be one of the sons^u of Ethelwulph, or the brother^v of Alfred.

^r See App. I., for an account of all the MS. Lives of Neot.

^s "NEOTUS qui erat *cognatus* suus." Chronicle of the Conventual Library of St. Neot's (Gale's Script. XX. Vol. I. p. 167.); —Asser De Reb. Gest. Ælfredi, in an. 878; it is probable, however, that the passage has been interpolated, since it was wanting in the most ancient MS. of Asser formerly in the Cotton Library.

^t The expressions of Neot's Biographers respecting this consanguinity may be seen in App. II. A. B. and C.

^u Life of Neot, MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V. The assertion rests upon *this* Life; for the other MSS. quoted above (p. 21. notes), are either the same Composition or merely Abstracts from it.

^v This assertion appears to have been first introduced into the Sanctilogium of John de Tinnmouth, written at the end of Century XIV. [See App. II. C. notes]. A *single* MS. of the Life of Neot [the Life generally cited in this Vol. as, MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.] quoted by Leland (Coll. Vol. III. p. 11.) from the Conventual Library of St. Neot's, also stated that he was the brother of Alfred; but it was probably an interpolated MS., since neither the MS. in the Cotton Library, nor that in the Abbey of Bec published by Mabillon, contains such an expression.

Neot was born in the former part of Century IX. It seems that he had in early life some inducements to select the profession of the army; but when he had attained to a military age, he resigned the prospects of temporal glory, that he might devote himself to a spiritual warfare^w. In the flower of youth, he renounced the world, professed himself a Neophyte^x, and assumed the habit of a Monk, in Glastonbury Abbey^y, about the middle of Century IX^z. Among

^w Lives of Neot: MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf.

^x Two derivations of the word NEOTUS have been mentioned (p. 23. and p. 25.); neither of which appear plausible. If, as there seems reason to think, this was not a *real* but an *assumed* name, it may, perhaps, be considered as a contraction of NEOphyTUS (the “new-born” convert) into NEO’TUS. Nothing was more common than to apply this term to persons who had taken upon themselves religious vows: it also sometimes occurs as a Proper Name [see, Catal. MSS. in Bibl. Regia Paris. Vol. II. Cod. 395. 1923. 2256. &c.].

^y Lives of Neot: Anglo-Saxon Homily, MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV. [App. II. **Æ.**];—MSS. Bodley 535 [App. II. **Æ.**];—MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.;—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

^z It is perfectly clear that Neot must have entered Glastonbury about the year 850: yet the most egregious mis-statements occur among his Biographers. He is said to have studied there, under Abbot Dunstan, about 940 [MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.]; in the time of Elpheg, Bishop of Winchester, from 935 to 951 [MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV.—MSS. Bodley 535.]; and of Ethelwolde, afterwards Bishop of Winchester in 963 [MSS. Bodl. 535.—MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.]. William de Malmesbury says

the Brethren of that House he became eminent for his literary attainments; he was still more endeared to them by his humility and devotion. Not satisfied with the religious exercises prescribed by the rules of the Order, he would often rise in the silence of the night, and steal to the Chapel in the disguise of a penitent, that (without being known to any casual intruder) he might pour out his soul in prayer: at the dawn of day, while the Brethren were yet in the Dormitory, he would resume his usual dress, and take his part in all the duties of the Monastery^a. Having been admitted to Holy Orders^b, he was made Sacristan of the Abbey. The fame of his learning and devotion attracted immense multitudes, from all parts of the country, who flocked to Glastonbury to receive the benefit of his instruction^c. Under a strong feeling of the danger of

that Neot was the Disciple of Erconwald, Bishop of London, about 680 [De Gest. Pont. Lib. IV., in Saville Angl. Scrip. p. 292.]; Higden, writing in the middle of Century XIV., repeats this strange assertion [Polychronicon Lib. V., in Gale Script. XX. Vol. II. p. 244.]

^a Lives of Neot: MSS. Cotton Claud. A. V.;—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

^b The Anglo-Saxon Homily says he was ordained by Elpheg Bishop of Winchester; who, however, did not live till a Century later [Life of Neot, MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV.].—John de Glastonbury [p. 111. edit. Hearne] states that Neot was ordained by the Bishop of Wells; but his single authority is of little weight, since he wrote so lately as about 1493.

^c Lives of Neot: MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.;—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

popular applause, he determined to retire from this public station, and to lead the life of an Anchorite in some less frequented spot^c. For this purpose he bade farewell to the beloved scenes of his early youth, and quitted the Cloisters of Glastonbury, accompanied by a single attendant, Barrius^c. He selected for his residence a secluded valley in Cornwall; which is described by the Monkish Writers as “a very fair place^d,” a sylvan retreat, surrounded by almost impenetrable woods, embosomed in the hills, and well supplied with springs^e. Two favorite pools, which were near to his Cell, have afforded materials for some singular legendary tales: the simple fact appears to have been, that one of these reservoirs was the Hermit’s fish-pond; the other, probably, his bath. The neighbouring village was called HAM-STOKE^f, and was distant ten miles from the Convent of St. Petrock^g; the name was shortly after changed to NEOT-STOKE^g; and subsequently to ST. NEOT’S, the appellation which it still retains. In this retirement he passed seven years. He then visited Rome to receive the

^d Anglo-Saxon Life of Neot, MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV.

^e Lives of Neot: MSS. Bodl. 535. [App. II. 3.];—MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.;—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

^f Matthew Westminster, p. 330. edit. 1570.

^g Lives of Neot: Anglo-Saxon Homily, MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV. [App. II. 2.];—MSS. Bodl. 535. [App. II. 3.].—This Convent was at Bodmin, *eight* miles from St. Neot’s.

Pope's^h blessing, and to obtain his counsel respecting some scruples which had arisen in his mind as to the expediency of changing his eremitical lifeⁱ. The Roman Pontiff dissuaded him from solitary devotion; exhorting him to return into Cornwall, and "to scatter the word of God among the people^k." In compliance with this paternal advice, Neot again sought his retired valley, founded a Monastery, or College of Priests, and gathered together some religious Brethren, over whom he was constituted Abbot^k. Of this Institution nothing is known, except that in the time of Edward the Confessor it possessed two hides of land; and that at the Norman Conquest, it was a religious Society, called "the Clerks of St. Neot^l."

Having brought into a connected view the few undoubted facts which have been recorded re-

^h Lives of Neot: Anglo-Saxon Homily MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV. [App. II. A.];—MSS. Bodl. 535 [App. II. B.];—and MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.; all agree in stating Martin II. as the Pope whom Neot visited at Rome; but he did not ascend the papal chair till 882, after Neot's death. Mabillon [Acta Sanct. Sec. IV. P. II.] suggests, as an amendment, John VIII., who became Pope in 872. Neot's visit to Rome was, probably, still earlier, in the Pontificate of Adrian II. (867—872).

ⁱ Lives of Neot; MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.;—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

^k Lives of Neot: MSS. Bodl. 535 [App. II. B.];—MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.;—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

^l Domesday, Vol. II. f. 121 a.—[App. XXX.]

specting Neot, from his entrance into Glastonbury Abbey to the period of his founding a religious House in Cornwall; it may be proper to notice very briefly some curious adventures, which have been detailed by Catholic Writers as miraculous occurrences. Most of these, if divested of their legendary coloring, would probably be found not to be altogether fictitious, but to have had their origin in some simple adventure.

1. Neot was so diminutive in his stature, that he has been called "another Zaccheus." He was accustomed, therefore, when he chanted mass at Glastonbury, to stand on an iron stool, which was long after preserved in that Abbey as a relic^m. It happened, on a certain day, that a person of high rank came to the Abbey at noon, "when the Monks usually rested and locked their gates." In vain did the stranger knock for admittance; no person heard the sound: he therefore repeated the summons with such violence as to awaken the Sacristan Neot, who was officially reposingⁿ in the Church. Hastening to the door, when scarcely roused from his slumbers, he missed his iron stool,

^m It was said to be still at Glastonbury at the end of Century XV.—John de Glastonbury, p. 112. edit. Hearne.

ⁿ Probably "lying there upon a bench, as Wolstan Arch bishop of York used to lie when he was a Monk; and having, perhaps, as Wolstan had, the book from which he prayed as his pillow!" Whitaker, [quoting Florence of Worcester 442. Edit. Lond. 1592.] Life of Neot, p. 44.

and was unable to reach the lock. At last, when in great distress, the lock gradually descended to the level of his Monastic girdle, so that he was enabled to open the door! The legend adds, that the lock continued long after in this position, as a testimony to the truth of the miracle°. “In the soberer style of truth,” Mr. Whitaker^p justly remarks, “the lock was lowered in consequence of St. Neot’s distress.....Thus, what was left, as the consequence of a little alteration made, and a memorial of a little event in the life of the Saint, was shaped by the plastic imagination of devotees into the memorial of a miracle that had never been wrought.”

2. The next legend removes the scene of reputed miracles from Glastonbury into Cornwall. Near the site of the Hermitage, to which this holy Confessor retired, was a pool in which were three fishes. Of these (the fabulous narrative affirms) the Hermit had a Divine permission to take *one*—and *only one*—every day: this condition being observed, he was assured that the supply should never be diminished. It happened, however, that he was afflicted with a severe indisposition, and was unable to take any sustenance. His disciple, Barius, with a studious regard to

° Lives of Neot: MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.;—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

^p Whitaker’s Life of Neot, p. 45.

the delicacy of his master's appetite, went to the pool and caught *two* fishes; having boiled one and broiled the other, he hoped to induce the Hermit to eat. Neot was alarmed, and anxiously inquired whence the two fishes came. Barius told his simple tale. "What hast thou done?" said the Hermit: "lo! the favor of God deserts us: go instantly and restore these fishes to their element." While Barius was absent at the pool, Neot prostrated himself in earnest prayer, till his servant returned with the intelligence that the fishes were disporting in the water as usual. He again went to the well (continues this fabulous narrative), and took only *one* fish; which the Hermit had no sooner tasted, than he was restored to perfect health^a!

3. During the period of Neot's residence in Cornwall as an Anchorite, he is said to have been accustomed to repeat the whole Psalter, once each day, standing in a fountain of clear water near his Hermitage. The celebrity of this beautiful Spring has been perpetuated by tradition. It is yet to be seen at the foot of a hill, not far to W. of the Church, some years since clothed with forest trees. An everflowing rill issues from it, which fills a reservoir about four feet square: it was surmounted by a stone canopy, the arch of which fell in a few

^a Lives of Neot: MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.;—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

years since : the side walls still remain ; the aperture above is overgrown with briars, ferns, and ivy. About 60 years since, a venerable oak, bending forward from the bank above, spread its branches like a fan over this sainted well. This crystal pool (which was probably the Hermit's bath) is said to have been the scene of more than one strange event.

One of these is recorded in an Anglo-Saxon Homily on St. Neot^r. On a certain day, the Saint retired to his sequestered Spring to chant his psalms. While bathing in the pool, "as his custom was," he heard many horsemen riding through the wood. The timid Hermit fled in confusion to his sylvan "Oratory," "unwilling that any earthly men should be acquainted with his devotions." In the haste of his retreat he lost his shoe ; in search of which (having first concluded his orisons) he dispatched his servant. On his way to the Spring, "a crafty fox (who had run over hill and dale), casting his eyes wildly hither and thither, suddenly came to the spot where the holy man had been bathing his feet, and took away the shoe." In order that "the Saint might not be scandalized by so mean a thing," the fox was miraculously cast into a deep sleep, "and died, having the thongs of the shoe in his vile mouth." The servant, having obtained it, re-

^r MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV. ff. 144 b. 145 a. [App. II. 3.].

turned to his master, by whom he was strictly enjoined not to divulge the event till after his death! The *general* outline of this story, may, possibly, record some actual adventure which occurred to the Recluse in his wild retreat.

4. Another incident, connected with this celebrated Spring, bears still less the character of a miracle; if some slight glosses be removed. "On a certain day," says his poetical Biographer^s, "when Neot was chanting his psalms in the fountain, according to his custom, a trembling doe, flying through the thickets of the neighbouring forest, and bounding over the impassable under-wood, fell down at the feet of the Saint, and by her anxious pantings implored the aid which she could not ask by more intelligible signs. Touched by her pitiful terror, the holy man determined to afford her a refuge. The dogs followed in full chase, panting to tear her in pieces; but when they saw her at the feet of the Saint, they fled back to the wood, as if they had been wounded, while Neot dismissed the doe unhurt. The huntsman, astonished at the event, cast away his quiver, implored the counsel of the holy Hermit, by his advice relinquished the world, and became a Monk at the neighbouring Convent of St. Petroc. The very horn which he wore,"

^s Life of Neot: MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.—Also, MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.

continues this Writer, “remains to this day a witness of the fact, being hung up in the Church!”

5. In the next legendary story we are introduced to the Convent, or College of Priests, founded by Neot when he quitted his Cell to sustain the office of an Abbot. Some thieves came by night and stole the oxen belonging to the farm of the Monastery. On the following morning, when the holy Brethren wanted to use their ploughs, the bullocks were missing. Neot exhorted them not to be disconsolate. In this difficulty many stags from the neighbouring woodlands tamely offered their necks to the yoke, and patiently submitted to all the labor necessary for the tillage of the farm; when unyoked in the evening they resorted to their favorite pastures, but voluntarily returned each morning to their accustomed work. The report of such a wonderful event reached the ears of the thieves. With unfeigned penitence they repaired to the Abbot, confessed the robbery, lamented their wickedness, assumed the vows and habit of the Convent, and consecrated the remainder of life to devotional exercises. The oxen having been restored, the stags were dismissed to their native woods; but, “concerning them,” says the credulous Biographer, “we have a marvellous report that the whole progeny retains the signs of their having thus labored; there is a white ring, like a yoke, about their necks, on that part which

was pressed by the collar^t.” “I will not,” (adds the more cautious Monk who wrote the Life preserved in the Cotton Library,)—“I will not positively assert the truth of this report, yet I dare not distrust the power of God and deny it^u.” The outlines of truth, and the embellishments of popular superstition, may both be traced in this simple narrative.

6. One incident yet remains, and is sufficiently credible. The Saint had a rich and proud neighbour, who oppressed the inhabitants of Neot-Stoke by compelling them to perform unreasonable services. The vassals were once driving the Lord's wains from his corn fields. A furious hurricane arose, and blew with such violence that men, oxen, and wains, were forced back “like an arrow from a bow.” As soon as the rich man heard of this storm, his conscience suggested that it was an indication of the Divine anger at his oppressive conduct. He hastened to Neot, and, with the hope of obtaining the pardon of his sins, liberated all the tenants of the Church-lands from future services^t.

Such are the incidents which, founded (probably) on some common occurrences, have been advanced by credulity and superstition to the dignity of miracles.

^t Lives of Neot.—MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

^u Life of Neot, MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.

King Alfred is said to have often visited the Cornish village, to the neighbourhood of which Neot retired. His cotemporary, Asser, Bishop of St. David's, informs us, that in the year 867, Alfred, being on a hunting expedition, turned aside to the Church [at Ham-Stoke], in which St. Guerir then rested, and in which St. Neot afterwards reposed^v: having remained for some time prostrate in prayer, imploring the removal of a severe disease with which he was afflicted, he departed. It was not long before the King's complaint was subdued; an effect which was, of course, attributed to the supposed sanctity of the place in which his prayers had been offered. Whether Neot had, at that time, commenced his residence in the neighbourhood of Ham-Stoke, does not appear. After his return from Rome to found his Monastery in that spot, he was frequently visited by Alfred, if we may believe his Biographers^w. On these occasions, it is stated, Neot sharply rebuked the Monarch for

^v "Ad quandam Ecclesiam in qua S. Gueryr requiescit et nunc etiam S. NEOTUS ibidem pausat." Asser, *De Reb. Gest. Ælfredi*, in an. 883.—The same incident is recorded in some anonymous *Annals of Winchester*, probably of no great antiquity. "Cornubiam adiit, Ecclesiam Sci. Guerour ubi Ses. requiescit NEOTHUS visitavit pro morbo illo sedando." *Liber de Hyda*, MSS. Lansdowne, 717. (Stowe's transcript.)

^w To whose testimony we may add that of Ingulph, Abbot of Croyland, who (writing two Centuries after the death of Neot), observes, "Rex Alfredus, Sanctorum pedibus acclivis et subditus, S. NEOTUM in summa veneratione habebat." Ingulphi *Hist. Croyl.* (Fulman, *Script.* p. 27.).

his unbridled ambition ; he also intimated that Alfred might expect to be visited by greater misfortunes from the Danish invasions than those which he had already experienced. In these severe reproofs the King was charged with having, in the early part of his reign, neglected the petitions and complaints of his people ; which conduct (it has been thought) alienated their affections, and contributed more than even the Danish successes to occasion his temporary seclusion in the marshes of Athelney. The advocates for the immaculate political character of the Great Alfred maintain that this incident is merely a Monkish fiction^x. It is recorded, however, by many ancient Chronicles, and relies upon the same testimony as that which sustains some other generally received narratives^y connected with this period of English History : on this ground it has been defended as authentic by some able Writers^z. The more curious reader will find these objurgatory admonitions of Neot (expressed in terms of unmeasured severity) minutely detailed by the Writers^a quoted in the margin ; it

^x See Whitaker's Life of Neot, pp. 142—162.

^y As the story of Alfred having been reproved by the herdsman's wife for suffering her cakes to be burnt. The *earliest* authority for this narrative (though hitherto unnoticed) is the Anglo-Saxon Homily on Neot [App. II. 3.], where the tale is told in an artless manner. Asser is usually quoted ; but the passage was probably *interpolated* in his work.

^z Turner's Hist. Anglo-Saxons, Vol. II. pp. 180—185. edit. 1800.

^a Lives of Neot : Anglo-Saxon Homily, MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV. ; MSS. Bodley, 535. ; MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V. ; MSS.

will be sufficient in this place to make a single extract from the most antient of these Records, in which the Saint is said to have thus addressed Alfred :—"O King, thou shalt suffer much in this life; hereafter so much distress thou shalt abide, that no man's tongue may say it all. Now, loved child, hear me if thou wilt, and turn thy heart to my counsel. Depart entirely from thine unrighteousness; thy sins with alms redeem and with tears abolish.^b" If we should allow, however, that this narrative is not altogether fictitious, it must be admitted that it has been tinged with a legendary coloring, by the easy credulity or wilful exaggeration of Catholic Writers^c; an observa-

Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53. Chronicle of the Conventual Library of St. Neot's (in Gale, *Scrip.* XX. Vol. I. p. 167.). Chronicle of Wallingford, Abbot of St. Albans, (in Gale, *Scrip.* XX. Vol. I. p. 536.). Matthew Westminster, p. 330. edit. Lond. 1570. The same incident is found also in a work of higher authority by a cotemporary, viz. Asser, *De Reb. Gest. Ælfredi*, in an. 878. ("*et ut in Vita S. Patris Neoti legitur, &c.*") : it seems, however, highly probable that this and some other passages in Asser have been *interpolated* on the authority of the Lives of Neot, being the glosses of some reader, intended originally as marginal illustrations, but afterwards incorporated in the text.

^b Anglo-Saxon Homily on St. Neot, MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V. [App. II. 3.].

^c After the invasion of Britain by the Danish chief Guthrum, in 878, and the flight of Alfred into the marshes of Athelney, in Somersetshire, Neot (lately deceased) is made to appear for the purpose of administering consolation to the afflicted King. [Asser, *De Reb. Gest. Ælfredi* in an. 878, (*but probably interpolated*):—Lives of Neot, MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.; MSS.

tion which equally applies to a great number of undoubted facts recorded by the early English Annalists.

By the advice of Neot, King Alfred restored the English School at Rome^d, which had been originally founded by Ina, King of the West Saxons, towards the end of Century VII.

Some Writers have adopted the opinion that Neot was promoted by Alfred to the Divinity Chair in the newly-founded University of Oxford; it has been even said that Neot was the projector of that Institution; notions which must be rejected as altogether unsupported by creditable authority^e.

Bodl. 535:—Chronicle of the Conventual Library of St. Neot's, in Gale, Scrip. XX. Vol. I. p. 167.]. Shortly after, on the night before an engagement with the Danes under Guthrum, the anxious mind of Alfred permitted him not to sleep. Neot, we are told, his countenance beaming with glory, and his robe being white as driven snow, appeared to the King:

“Ecce! NEOTUS adest Domini miserantis alumnus.”

Nor was this merely a consolatory vision: he led the army, fought by the side of the King, and ensured the victory! [Life of Neot, MSS. Bodl. 535.].

^d Lives of Neot: Anglo-Saxon Homily, MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV.;—MSS. Bodl. 535.;—MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.;—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

^e The following are the supposed authorities for this fact.—1. A MS. Life of Neot, found by Leland in the Conventual Library of St. Neot's: “NEOTUS, frater Aluredi Regis qui Achademiam Oxoniensem fundavit instigante fratre.” Leland's Coll. Vol. III. p. 11. This, however, was clearly an *interpolated* MS. (see p. 26, note v.)—2. Brompton, who is supposed to have written so recently as the commencement of Century

Neot was *not* a Theological Professor^f at Oxford, nor was that University founded or restored by the

XIV.: “ad consilium beati NEOTI Abbatis, Scholas Publicas variarum artium apud Oxoniam [Alfredus] primum instituit.” Brompton, in Twysden X. Scrip. Vol. I. p. 814. edit. 1652.—3. The Minor History of Rudborne, a Monk of Winchester, who wrote in the middle of Century XV.: “instituit præterea Scholas Publicas Oxoniis, quas multis privilegiis communivit per Scm. Grimbaldum et NEOTHUM Monachos.” Rudborne, MSS. Cott. Nero A. XVII. f. 76 b. It is singular that Wharton, who, in the *Anglia Sacra*, marks the chief variations between the Major and Minor Histories of Rudborne, should have omitted to notice this passage.—4. Camden’s authority is that which has principally misled subsequent writers. He quotes the following passage, professedly from an *antient* Chronicle of Winchester: “A. D. Incarnationis MCCCVI [DCCCLXXXVI]....incepta est Universitas Oxoniæ, primitus in eadem regentibus ac in Schola Theologiæ legentibus Sco. NEOTO Abbate necnon in Theologia Doctore egregio, et Sco. Grimbaldo, &c.” Vet. Annal. Novi Monast. Winton., quoted by Camden, *Britannia*, p. 267. edit. 1607. Camden has given no hint of the source from which he obtained his MS. The Chronicle itself exists in MSS. Lansdowne, 717 it is called the “*Liber de Hyda*,” but is merely Stowe’s transcript made in 1572. It contains, also, the passage above quoted from Brompton, and agrees in several other respects with that Writer. This Chronicle was, probably, a comparatively *modern* figment of some glossing Monk.—5. Ross, who wrote at the end of Century XV., has a similar passage: “A. D. 874, Sco. NEOTE instigante, Scholas Publicas variarum artium apud Oxoniam instituit.” Ross, *Hist. Reg. Angl.* p. 77. edit. Hearne 1715. He states that he consulted an *antient* Chronicle at Hyde Abbey; which was, perhaps, the same as that quoted by Camden.

^f This statement is maintained, in considerable detail, and with invincible arguments, by Smith [*Venerab. Bedæ Hist. Append. XIV. pp. 735—737. edit. Folio 1722*]. Spelman [*Vita*

Great Alfred. That honor is not claimed for Neot by his Biographers, nor for Alfred by his Chronicler and cotemporary Asser^g. A futile opinion was advanced by Fox^h that the present *New College* received its name from a transition of *Neot* into *Nesot*! Twyn and Wood imagined, that the fact of Neot having been a Professor in Oxford may be traced in the name of an ancient Hostle, called *Neot's-Hall*ⁱ, upon the site of which are the present gardens of New College. These puerile conjectures need no formal refutation.

Neot has been erroneously reputed the author of the following works :

1. *Annals of Alfred to 14th year of his reign*^k;

[Ælfredi, Lib. III. § 55.] has adopted a strange hypothesis, that there were *two* NEOTS! the Saint, he acknowledges, did not read Lectures at Oxford; but he conceives that a second person, of the same name, did: his Editor justly discards the supposition.

^g The celebrated passage in Asser on the dissention at Oxford in the reign of Alfred, once defended by Camden, Twyn, Wise, &c. and invalidated by the authority of Archbishop Parker, and by the arguments of Archbishop Usher, Spelman, Smith, &c. is now universally acknowledged to be an *interpolation*. The best evidence of the spuriousness of this passage may be seen in the review of the controversy by Wise, [Asser, *De Reb. Gest. Ælfredi*. edit. Wise.] though written with the design of supporting the disputed paragraph. See, also, Spelman, *Vita Ælfredi*, Lib. III. § 30—41.

^h Fox's *Acts and Monuments*, Vol. I. p. 186.

ⁱ Twyn, *Antiq. Acad. Oxon.* p. 189.—Wood's *Hist. Coll. in Oxf.* p. 175.

^k Twyn, *Antiq. Acad. Oxon.* p. 189, quoting Dando Carmelita.—Tanner's *Bibliotheca*.—Spelman, *Vita Ælfredi*, p. 3.

2. *Sermons and Exhortations*¹;

3. *For the Confirmation of the School* [at Rome],
one *Epistle to Pope Martin II.*^m;

4. *Exhortations to King Alfred*, one *book*^m;

there is not the least authority for these statements.

All sober testimony conspires in the assertion that Neot lived and died at Ham-Stoke, having never quitted that spot except for the purpose of visiting Rome. How long he continued to preside over the Convent, or College, which he founded in Cornwall on his return, is unknown: the period was, probably, very short. The precise year of his death is not stated by any antient authority, and can only be collected from circumstantial evidence: the most probable date is 877ⁿ. His decease occurred on 31 July^o. The circumstances

¹ Pitsius, *De Reb. Angl. in an.* 883.

^m Bale, *Scrip. Illus.* p. 123. edit. Basle, 1557.

ⁿ Cressy places this event in 890 [*Church Hist.* p. 768.]; but Neot was certainly not alive in 883 [*Asser De Reb. Gest. Ælfredi, in an.* 883]; and if his biography, though legendary in circumstance, may be trusted in substance, he was dead in 878 [*Life of Neot, MSS. Bodl.* 535.]. The probability that Neot died in 877 is ably maintained by Smith, [*Venerab. Bedæ Hist. App. XIV. pp. 735—737.*]. The same date is adopted by Mabillon [*Acta Sanct. Ord. Bened. Sec. IV. P. II. p. 337.*].

^o Ordericus Vitalis, in *Du Chesne Hist. Norm. Script.* p. 542. edit. Paris, 1619.—*Life of Neot, MSS. Bene't Coll. Camb., Parker, 161., title to Prologue.*—*John de Tinmouth's Hist. Aurea, MSS. Lambeth, 12.*—*John de Tinmouth's Sanctilogium, MSS. Cott. Tib. E. I.*—The 31 July was the Festival of St. Neot observed at the Priory in Huntingdonshire [*Cartulary of St. Neot's, MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 45 b. compared with Pleas*

of his last moments are recorded only in general terms. Having refreshed his spirit by a participation of the emblems of his Saviour's death, like a faithful shepherd he addressed "his own little flock;" he "exhorted them to live in peace, and spoke much of the means by which the salvation of the soul might be promoted." He then "committed his soul to the mercy of the Almighty, and (stretching forth his hands towards heaven^p) breathed out his spirit in the midst of psalmody and prayers^q." He was buried, with due honor, in the Church which he himself had built, upon the site of the more antient Chapel dedicated to St. Guerir^r: after seven years had elapsed a larger Edifice was constructed (in 884?) by the religious Brethren of Neot-Stoke^s, and the body was removed to the N. side of the altar^t.

About a Century later the remains of Neot were

Quo War. 14 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' m. 4, see App. XVI. **¶**. and XXII.], and also at the Abbey of Bec [Mabillon Acta Sanct. Ord. Ben. Sec. IV. P. II. p. 337.].

^p Life of Neot, Anglo-Saxon Homily, MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV. [App. II. **¶**.].

^q Life of Neot, MSS. Bodl. 535. [App. II. **¶**.].

^r Spelman has made a singular and double mistake in the assertion that Neot was buried at *Eynesbury* in *Cornwall*! Spelman, Vita Ælfredi, Lib. II. §. 59. p. 102. edit. Folio 1688. Bale, also, asserts that "Neot was buried at *Eynesbury* by his disciple Barius." Bale Scrip. Illus. p. 123.

^s So Ham-Stoke was called after the death of Neot.

^t Lives of Neot: Anglo-Saxon Homily, MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV. [App. II. **¶**.];—MSS. Bodl. 535. [App. II. **¶**.];—MSS. Cott. Claud. A. V.;—MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.

removed into Huntingdonshire : the particulars of this translation will be detailed below. The patron Saint having deserted Neot-Stoke, the lands with which the College of Priests had been endowed fell a prey to the rapacity of power ; for, at the Norman invasion, the Earl of Morton seized on this ecclesiastical property, leaving the Priests no more than a single acre^u. From that period the Cornish Convent, or College, is no more heard of ; it was, probably, entirely suppressed in the reign of the Conqueror. Not a vestige of this Saxon Institution remains, nor is it known in what part of the parish of Neot-Stoke the Edifice stood^v.

^u Domesday, Vol. II. fol. 121 a. [App. XXX.].

^v Whitaker's assertion, that some remains of this Monastery are to be seen in the present vicarage-house, is without a shadow of probability.—Whitaker's Life of Neot, pp. 138, 139.

§ II.

HISTORY OF THE PRIORY OF ST. NEOT, IN HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

THE body of Neot remained undisturbed in Cornwall for about 100 years: it was then removed into Huntingdonshire. The fact of this translation having taken place is beyond all doubt; although Mr. Whitaker, in the face of the strongest evidence, altogether denies it. We have no other explicit account of the *circumstances* attending this removal than that by the Biographer^a whose work (written in Century XI.?) exists in the Bodleian Library: this narrative is considerably disfigured by legendary fables; but, by connecting the broad facts which it details with the History of the times, the following statement may be confidently elicited.

I. FIRST FOUNDATION OF THE PRIORY OF ST. NEOT.

In the reign of Edgar a shameful description of robbery had obtained among ecclesiastical Bodies—the stealing of relics, upon a pretended Divine revelation. In those days it was no uncommon practice for powerful Abbies to despoil the weaker

^a Life of Neot, MSS. Bodley, 535, [App. III.].—Bishop Bale quotes a Narrative of this translation by Ramsey, which appears to differ from the above [Bale Scrip. Illus. p. 217.]; but that MS. is not known to exist. [See Appen. I. (II.)].

Monasteries, or to rob defenceless villages of their sainted remains, in order to increase the celebrity of their own foundations. That the body of Neot was stolen out of Cornwall, and brought into Huntingdonshire, by one of these pious frauds, is evident even from the varnished accounts of the Bodleian Biographer (who acknowledges the violence of the act), and of Thomas a Monk of Ely^b (who incidentally gives a clue to the names of the parties). This narrative presents us with a melancholy picture of the superstition and demoralisation of the times; in which a King, a Bishop, an Abbot, and a Nobleman, are found conspiring in a theft, intrinsically contemptible, but of no mean value as a source of ecclesiastical revenue.

About the year 974^c, Earl Alric^d (a powerful

^b He wrote about 1170.

^c The *precise* year is uncertain. It was in the time of Abbot *Brithnod*, and therefore in the period 970—981. The body having been removed in the reign of *Edgar* [Leland, *De Scrip.* Cap. CXIII.], the event could not have occurred *later* than 975. It appears, also, that some of the Monks of St. Neot's were brought from Thorney [see below] which Abbey was founded in 972; this consequently is the *earliest* date which can be assigned to the foundation of the Priory of St. Neot. The period, therefore, is limited to 972—975.

^d The names of the first Founders are variously given. The Bodleian Biographer speaks of them as "a certain very powerful and rich Person, and his venerable wife" [Life of Neot, MSS. Bodl. 535. App. III.]. Thomas de Ely calls them simply, "*Leofric*, a man devoted to God, and his wife *Leofleda*": [Hist. Cænob. Elien. Lib. II. Cap. XXVIII. App. IV.] he mentions also, that *Ægelnof* was his brother. [Cap. XXIX.]. Leland desig-

Nobleman in Huntingdonshire) and his Countess Ethelfleda^d, founded and endowed a Priory at EYNESBURY, subordinate to the recently established Monastery at Ely. It is possible that a religious House previously existed at Eynesbury, dedicated to Ernulph^e; but this is uncertain. The interest of Brithnod^f the first Abbot of Ely, and the influence of Ethelwolde^g Bishop of Winchester, having been obtained, the sanction of King Edgar^h immediately followed. A patron Saint, however, was wanting, to give popularity to

nates them as, "*Ethelric*, a great Nobleman in Huntingdonshire, and *Ethelfleda*, a Lady scarcely to be equalled" [De Scrip. Cap. CXIII.]; "the memorable Hero, the celebrated Almoner, and the devoted Worshiper of God, *Ethelric*," and "the renowned Matron *Ethelfleda*" [Itin. Vol. IV. App. p. 22, quoting a MS. on the translation of St. Ives]; "*Earl Alric*" [Coll. Vol. I. p. 68]. The Valuation of St. Neot's Priory 1534 denominates them "*Earl Aylic* and *Elfelda* his wife" [see App. XXVII.]. Nothing appears to be known of them from other sources. The Founders are here mentioned as resident at *Eynesbury*, on the authority of the Bodleian Biographer, just quoted.

^e The assertion that a Monastery had been already founded here by *Neot*, and laid waste by the Danes; [Thomas de Ely, "Hist. Cænob. Elien." Lib. II. Cap. XXVIII. MSS. Bodl. Laud. 647. (App. IV.)] is manifestly incorrect.

^f Thomas de Ely, "Hist. Cænob. Elien." Lib. II. Cap. XXVIII. MSS. Bodl. Laud. 647. [App. IV.].

^g Ethelwolde, we are informed, "obtained a licence from King Edgar, to remove the bodies of Saints, which lay neglected in ruined places, to the Monasteries which he himself had established." Brompton, in Twysden Scrip. X. p. 868. edit. 1652.

^h Life of Neot, MSS. Bodl. 535. [App. III.]: The name of the King is suppressed.

the new Monastery: by what circumstance the choice was directed to Neot, it would be fruitless to conjecture.

Such a powerful saint-stealing combination found no difficulty in removing from Neot-Stoke the sacred deposit. The management of the theft was committed to the official Warden of the Shrine; who secretly decamped with the treasure of which he had received the trust. He absconded from Neot-Stoke on St. Andrew's day (30 November); the inclemency of the wintry storms, which happened to be very severe, impeded not his journey, and he reached Eynesbury in safety on the Octave of the above-mentioned Festival (7 December). He was received, as a welcome guest, into the residence of Earl Alric at Eynesbury; the body remained for a short time under the roof of that Nobleman, the Monastery not having been yet builtⁱ.

In the mean time, the inhabitants of Neot-Stoke, having understood that the Warden was missing, and having suspected the fraud, flocked to the Shrine of their Saint to inspect the sacred Chest. On finding that their invaluable treasure was gone, they were filled with self-reproach at their own carelessness, and with indignation at the infidelity of their servant. Having armed themselves with such weapons as they could procure, they sought the fugitive among the neighbouring woods, hills,

ⁱ Life of Neot, MSS. Bodl. 535. [App. III.].

and valleys ; after much waste of time and fruitless labor, having obtained information respecting the road by which he had fled, a party of the principal inhabitants traced him to Eynesbury.

Restoration of the stolen property having been in vain demanded, their rage became excessive. From bribes and threats, they were about to proceed to violence ; and blood would have been shed, had not the royal authority interposed to quell this disturbance. King Edgar (whose *licence* for the removal of the relics is glossed over, by the Bodleian Biographer, as simply “ *an unwillingness to allow this sacred treasure to be carried back*” into Cornwall!) sent an armed force to Eynesbury with full powers “ to drive the Cornish men out of the village, and to put them to the sword in case of resistance” : so great (we are told) was the wrath of the Sovereign, that he would scarcely give permission for their return without punishment. It is curious to observe how this act of superstitious rapacity is represented as a devout compliance with the will of God : it is stated as a token of His anger at “ the sins of the people” of Neot-Stoke (whom He deprived of the treasure which they were unworthy to possess) : and a mark of His approbation of His Confessor Neot, in appointing him a second and more splendid Shrine^k!

^k Life of Neot, MSS. Bodl. 535. [App. III].—That this pious theft has been *justly* fixed upon the parties above-mentioned, will be abundantly evident on a comparison of the accounts by the Bodleian Biographer and by Thomas de Ely

Thus was the modest veil of piety thrown over an act distinguished by superstition and fraud.

[Comp. App. III. and IV.]. The former, it must be admitted, only states the *theft* without alluding to any of the parties except the King and the Founder; the latter names the *parties*, Ethelwolde and Brithnod, as lending their patronage to the new Convent at Eynesbury, but does not charge them with the theft. If, however, it could be doubted whether these were in reality the persons guilty of the theft, the following narrative (which has a striking affinity to that given above, in the time, the parties, the act, and the motive) will effectually remove such a doubt.—King *Edgar* having conferred on the Abbey of Ely the village of Dereham in Norfolk, in the Church of which place the body of the Virgin St. Withiburga (sister of Etheldreda the patroness of the Isle of Ely) was preserved; *Ethelwolde* Bishop of Winchester, and *Brithnod* first Abbot of Ely, were desirous of possessing her remains that they might translate them to the Abbey. *Edgar's* licence had already been obtained for this purpose; but “it was thought adviseable to proceed with caution, as it was likely that the inhabitants of the place would not easily part with so valuable a treasure without resistance.” “On 8 July 974, the Abbot, and some of the most active and prudent of the Monks, attended by some servants of the Abbey, *all well armed*, set out on their journey; and, on their arrival at Dereham, were received by the people with great respect.” The Abbot kept the attention of the people employed by a public feast; at night all retired to rest; while the Monks were occupied in the Church, opening the tomb, and inspecting the body. In the middle of the night, the Monks bore away the coffin on their shoulders to a carriage, around which were the Abbot's servants as a guard. At Brandon they reached their boats, and set sail. But, the theft having been discovered, the townsmen flocked together, and armed themselves for the pursuit. On their arrival at Brandon, the Monks had fled: taking opposite sides of the Ouse, they overtook the *religious* Brethren, who sailed on in defiance of

No sooner were the remains of Neot safely deposited at EYNESBURY, than Earl Alric raised over them a Chapel¹, and converted the palace of Earl Elfrid^m into a Monastery which was dedicated to the Saint. The site of these religious Edifices was on the E. bank of the Ouse, on the N. side of the present town of St. Neot's. In honor of the Saint the name of the place was changed to NEOTS-BURY¹. At the dedication of the Conventual Chapel, Ethelwolde Bishop of Winchester, Æscwin

threats; for their pursuers, having no boats, could offer no resistance, and retired without regaining the spoil.—Thomas de Ely, Hist. Cænob. Elien. Lib. II. Cap. LIII. MSS. Bodl. Laud 647.—See also, Bentham's Ely, pp. 76, 77.

One other narrative shall be adduced, as equally illustrative of the spirit of those times, and of the particular event recorded in the text. At the request of Ætheric Bishop of Dorchester, a licence was obtained from Canute to remove the relics of St. Felix (formerly Bishop of the East Angles) from Soham in Cambridgeshire to Ramsey Abbey. Abbot Athelstan, with a respectable party of Monks, went by water to Soham, and, repelling resistance *by the authority of the King and of the Bishop*, brought away in their boat "the Shrine containing so vast a treasure." The Monks of Ely went on board their vessels with a strong force to intercept the Brethren of Ramsey; but (says the Ramsey Historian) "on a sudden a thick cloud arose, and our adversaries wandering from their course, the attendant water restored us safe to the bosom of our domestic shore!"—"Hist. Rames.", in Gale, Scrip. XX. Tom. I. pp. 437, 438.

¹ Life of Neot, MSS. Bodl. 535. [App. III.];—MSS. Benet Coll. Camb. Parker 161.

^m Leland, Coll. Vol. III. p. 10.

Bishop of Lincoln, Brithnod Abbot of Ely, Earl Ægelwin, Ædric Pope, Ædelm Polga, and many others, were present. Before the whole congregation, Earl Alric and his Lady Ethelfleda entreated Abbot Brithnod and Bishop Ethelwolde, that they would take the Convent under their protection, and furnish it with Monks. In compliance with the petition of the Founders, some Brethren were sent from Ely, and others from Thorney: a Benedictine Priory was thus established. It was further agreed that the Monastery should be for ever subject to the Church of Ely; and that the Priors should always be sent from Ely, unless a person should be found at Neotsbury fit for the office and approved by the Brethren of the Mother Abbey. The endowment, by Earl Alric, consisted of 18 hides of land; 2 of which were in Eynesbury [St. Neot's?] 6 in Waresley, and 9 in Gamlingay. The Deeds, by which these lands were conveyed, were written in Anglo-Saxon: one was given to Bishop Ethelwolde, and was deposited in the Church [of Ely?] where it still remained towards the close of Century XII.; another was given to Bishop Æsewin; the third was retained by the Founders at Neotsbury.ⁿ

ⁿ The particulars of this dedication rest on the authority of Thomas de Ely, Hist. Cœnob. Elien. Lib. II. Cap. XXVIII. MSS. Bodl. Laud 647. [App. IV.]. The Dedication is again alluded to in the same work, Cap. XXIX.: "cum essent apud EANULFESBYRIE *ad dedicationem Leofrici &c.*"

Ailwyn, Alderman or Duke of the East Angles, was the Patron of this Priory°. At the dedication of Ramsey Abbey, in 992, Duke Ailwyn, the Abbots of Ely, of Peterborough, of Thorney, and the “chief and potent men of Huntingdonshire,” together with the “celebrated and venerable Matron Ethelfleda who had founded and endowed the Monastery of Eynesbury^p,” were assembled. The Duke and the above-mentioned Abbots, after having demanded of all persons present whether they had any claim upon their respective Abbeys, or on “the Monastery of Eynesbury^q,” bound themselves by a solemn vow to protect these Houses with all their power.

Only a few years, however, elapsed, before the newly founded Monastery was disquieted by apprehensions of Danish violence. In anticipation of the possibility of such a disaster, the remains of Neot were removed to a part of the country less exposed to barbarian ravages. This precautionary translation was effected by a Lady of

° Hist. Rames. Cap. LV. LVII. (in Gale, Scrip. XX. Tom. I. pp. 422. 423).

^p “Huic dedicationi [sc. Ecclesiæ Ramesiensis] intererat, cum cetu Nobilium, inclyta Matrona Ethelfledis, orationibus, jejuniis, aliisque pietatis actibus venerabilis; quæ etiam Cænobium ENULPHESBYRIÆ honorifice condidit et magnifice ditavit.” Le-land’s Itin. Vol. IV. App. p. 22. (*E Libello de translatione Yvonis*).

^q “Monasterium de ENOLFESBIRI, quod nunc SCI. NEOTI dicitur.” Hist. Rames. Cap. LVII. (in Gale, Scrip. XX. Tom. I. p. 423).

Eynesbury named Lewina¹, a person of great property, and sister of Osketul Abbot of Croyland. This event may be placed (with the highest probability) in the year 1003²; when the Danes under Sweyn landed to revenge the massacre of their countrymen by Ethelred. The general panic occasioned by the Danish atrocities, induced Lewina to convey "the sacred mould of the Confessor Neot," in a Shrine adapted to the purpose, to her villa at Whittlesea; from which place she instantly dispatched a messenger to Croyland, beseeching her brother Osketul to come with a respectable retinue of Monks, and to receive the relics into his Abbey, as a more secure sanctuary. The Abbot immediately repaired to Whittlesea with some of the Brethren. They returned to Croyland in a solemn procession, bearing away the relics through the marshes (at that

¹ "*Leniova*;" Ordericus Vitalis, in Du Chesne Hist. Norm. Scrip. p. 542. edit. Paris, 1619. "*Leuiua*;" Leland, Itin. Vol. IV. App. p. 7.

² The body was removed "*in the time of Osketul*," and consequently in some year between 992 and 1005.—The date 1077 [*interpolated by the Monks of Bury in the margin of their MS. of John de Tinnmouth's Hist. Aurea, MSS. Bodl. 240*] is, therefore, out of the question: the error, probably, crept in from a misapprehension of a passage in Ordericus Vitalis, who states this event in a *retrospective* paragraph to which is prefixed the date 1073.—The dates 993 [Alfordi Annales, Tom. III. p. 419] and 994 [Cressy's Church Hist. p. 768] are, perhaps, given at random, on the idea that the event occurred in the *commencement* of Osketul's Abbey.

time almost impenetrable), while the air was filled with the chants and sacred melodies of the holy Brethren. On reaching the Abbey, the remains were deposited, with much devotion, on the N. side of the altar of St. Mary.^t After the state of the country had become more settled, these relics were restored^u to the Monastery of Neotsbury. The Monks of Croyland, nevertheless, continued to boast the empty honor of still possessing these remains in their Abbey^v: probably

^t Ingulph, Hist. Croyl., in Fulman Scrip. p. 55. [App. V. 2.]. Ordericus Vitalis, in Du Chesne Hist. Norm. Scrip. p. 542.—See John de Tinmouth's Sanctilogium, MSS. Cott. Tib. E. 1. [App. V. 3.].—Leland's Itin. Vol. IV. App. p. 7. and Coll. Vol. II. p. 233.

^u “Fama equidem prædicat reliquias inde [sc. a FANO NEOTI] Crulandiam traductas, et, *pace confirmata*, postliminii jure *suo Fano redditas*.” Leland, De Scrip. Cap. CXIII.

^v In times in which it was not unusual to seize on relics by violence, it was also common for Abbeys to refuse to restore remains temporarily committed to their protection. So common were such pitiful thefts, that the Monks of Croyland boasted of never having restored the remains of Neot, entrusted to their charge in a moment of danger; preferring rather to impute to themselves a dishonesty of which they were not in fact guilty, than to forego the advantage of claiming a possession which tended to enhance their celebrity among the superstitious. In 1078-9 the Shrine was inspected at Neotsbury by Anselm, who shortly after (when Abp. of Canterbury) officially attested the fact of the body being there. Nevertheless, a Century later, the Abbot of Croyland insisted that this honor belonged to *his* House. Some of the Monks were sufficiently sincere to “profess their doubts as to the fact:” these scruples were soon removed by the Abbot, “who, by the light of wax candles,

some trifling relic, which they had retained, gave color to this claim. It is certain, however, that Neot was one of the principal Saints who received

broke open the chest with awe; where he found the skull, the collar bones, the shoulder blades, some bones of the thorax, with those of the legs and thighs." In 1213 these pretended relics of Neot were removed by the Abbot Henry Longchamp, and were "placed by an altar erected to his honor" [John de Tinnmouth's Sanctilogium, MSS. Cott. Tib. E. I. (App. V. 3.)]. As a proof of the futility of these claims, in 1295 Oliver Bp. of Lincoln issued a second Attestation, reciting the Testimonial of Abp. Anselm: this document states, that the original Instrument of Anselm was even then in existence; that "the parchment and writing were uninjured; though the seal was partly destroyed by time" [Archives Line. Cath. "Memoranda Oliveri Sutton" f. 122 b. and 123 a. App. VI.].

A very similar case is mentioned, by Matthew Paris, as having occurred in the middle of Century XI. towards the close of the reign of Edward the Confessor. Alarmed by the Danish ravages, Alfrie II., Abbot of St. Albans, requested permission to deposit the remains of the Martyr Alban in the custody of the Monks of Ely, "where they would be more secure from invasion, since the Island in which their Monastery was situated was defended by impenetrable marshes." The danger being past, restitution of the relics was in vain demanded; at length some *other* bones were sent back from Ely; on which the wary Monks of St. Alban's declared that, fearing dishonesty, they had originally sent the bones of a Monk, on the pretence of their being those of St. Alban, whose remains were secreted in the wall of the Abbey! The Monks of St. Alban's received back, however, these supposititious remains, "lest the fraud of the Ely Brethren should occasion scandal among the people, and religion be exposed to perfect contempt and ridicule!" [Matth. Paris., Vita Abbat. Sci. Albani. pp. 27. 28. edit. Paris. 1624.]

Such instances of miserable superstition and contemptible

superstitious veneration at Croyland. Ingulph^w Abbot of Croyland (towards the close of Century XI.) mentions "the fire" which burned before the altar "of Neot;" and Malmsbury^x (near the middle of Century XII.) speaks of "Neot uniting his shield to that of Guthlac for the protection of the natives."

fraud, are, *in themselves*, beneath notice: they are, however, not uninteresting as striking illustrations of the temper of the times, and as examples of the publicly avowed immorality of the religious Societies of that age.

^w Abbot Ingulph records a singular dream which he had (the year before his promotion to Croyland) on 6 December 1075 when Prior of Fontanelle. Having been praying in the Church till midnight, "pouring out his heart in supplication that the Lord would be pleased to direct his way," he fell asleep: in his dream he saw a splendid assemblage of Bishops and Saints, among whom were "*Guthlac and NEOT, both special advocates of Croyland.*" The whole group having come into the middle of the Choir, Bishop Wlfrann beckoned to Ingulph to approach, and admonished him to "take particular care of the fires of the three Saints, Guthlac, NEOT, and Waldeve." This dream, Ingulph tells us, was at the time unintelligible, but was afterwards illustrated by a melancholy event, the dreadful fire of 1091 which destroyed the Abbey of Croyland over which he then presided. [Ingulph, Hist. Croyl. in Fulman Scrip. pp. 75. 76. 99.]

^x "Accessit et novus hospes, sed vetus apud Dominum patronus, SCS. NEOTUS, qui, quondam beatissimi Erkenwaldi discipulus, apud Einulfes'beri maxima semper veneratione habitus est; sed illinc, pro Danorum incursu, sublatus, et Croland delatus, modo juncto cum Guthlaco umbone indigenas protegit, advenarum etiam vocibus exorabilis." Malmsb. de Gest. Pont. Lib. IV. in Saville Angl. Scrip. p. 292. edit. Francof. 1601.

The alarm which occasioned the temporary dismissal of the patron Saint from his Monastery, was not a vain anticipation; for the Edifice was afterwards burnt by the Danes^y. It is probable that the Convent escaped the immediate danger apprehended by Lewina in 1003; for it does not appear that they then marched into this part of England. It can scarcely be doubted that the destruction of the Priory of Neotsbury, by these savage invaders, occurred in 1010. In that year, the Danes are traced from "Buckingham, by the Ouse, to Bedford, and Temsford," *within five miles of Neotsbury*, "burning every thing in their way^z;" they "then returned to their ships" at Ipswich, shaping their march (in all probability) to Cambridge, where they had recently gained a victory: this course would necessarily bring them into contact with the ill-fated Monastery of St. Neot, which was, doubtless at that time, given to the flames.

The Convent either was not entirely destroyed

^y The Danish plunder of this Monastery has been stated as having occurred *before* the endowment by Alric [Thomas de Ely, Hist. Cœnob. Elien. Lib. II. Cap. XXVIII., MSS. Bodl. Laud. 647. App. IV.]; this statement is manifestly incorrect.—Leland wrote from the more precise information, received at the Priory, and states this event as having occurred *after* the Foundation by Alric [Leland's Coll. Vol. III. p. 10. and De Scrip. Cap. CXIII.].

^z Saxon Chronicle, pp. 140. 141. edit. Gibson.

in 1010, or was rebuilt; for it still continued to support some Monks, and was subject to the Church of Ely, at the Norman Conquest. At that period it was seized by Gilbert Earl of Owe. The Ely Monks were then violently expelled; partly (it may be presumed) in revenge for the resistance which the Mother Abbey had recently (in 1069) offered to the Conqueror, and partly to make room for some foreign Monks. Three of the Ely Brethren remained in the Convent at Neotsbury with unconquerable obstinacy; neither stripes nor hunger could force them from their favorite retreat: the enraged Earl at length sent them into Normandy, and charged the Abbot of Bec to keep them in perpetual confinement beyond the Channel.^a

II. THE PRIORY OF ST. NEOT RE-FOUNDED, AS AN ALIEN CELL.

Richard Fitz-Gilbert de Clare (son of the above-mentioned Earl of Owe), and Rohaïs his wife, sent to the Abbey of Bec^b for a colony of French Monks, to replenish the vacant Convent at

^a Thomas de Ely, Hist. Cœnob. Elien. Lib. II. Cap. XXVIII. XCIX., MSS. Bodl. Laud 647. [App. IV.].

^b The Abbey of BEC-HELLOUIN (one league from Briône, in Normandy) was founded in 1060. The establishment was subverted in the French Revolution, and the Abbey is now in ruins.

Neotsbury, which was, henceforth, to become a Cell to the Norman House. Anselm (who had just been promoted to the Abbacy) sent over several Brethren from his Monastery^c. This event occurred in the year 1078 or 1079^d. A letter, written by the Norman Abbot on this occasion^e, commends the French Monks to the liberality of their patrons.—“ Brother Anselm, and Brother Richard the lowly Monk, with the whole congregation of Bec, to their dearest Lord Richard and their dearest Lady Rohaïs ; health, and unfeigned prayers. We render great thanks, first to God, from whom proceeds every good desire, and then to you, for all the benefits which you have

^c Leland, Coll. Vol. III. p. 10. Leland was wrong, however, in his conjecture that this event happened in the time of Henry I., when Anselm was Abp. of Canterbury. It clearly took place when he was Abbot of Bec [see App. VI.].

^d This date may be fixed with certainty, from the following considerations. It could not be *earlier*; for the French Monks were sent over by Anselm, [Leland, Coll. Vol. III. p. 10.] who was not made Abbot of Bec till 26 Aug. 1078. Nor was it *later*; for in the first year of his Abbacy, Anselm visited the Convents *already* subjected to Bec [Eadmer, Vita Anselm. Lib. I.], and Neotsbury was among the Priories which he inspected [Archives Linc. Cath. See App. VI.].

^e As French Monks were sent by Anselm to *Tooting* (and, *possibly*, to some other Cells), at the request of the same individuals, it is not certain that this letter refers *exclusively* to the Brethren intended for *Neotsbury*: probably a supply sufficient for several Houses was transmitted from Normandy.

bestowed and promised. Thus you have well proved that your regard for our Monastery has not decreased. May the Almighty God, to whom our prayers daily ascend on your behalf, and by whose love you have been influenced in your liberal conduct towards us, reward you abundantly in the Kingdom of Heaven. We send our Brethren to you, as you desire. They go into England at your request, and under your auspices: be it, therefore, your care to provide for their settlement and maintenance^f."

^f "Suo carissimo Domino Richardo, et suæ carissimæ Dominæ Rohaidi, Frater Anselmus et Frater Richardus parvulus Monachus, cum tota Congregatione Beccensi, salutem et fideles orationes. Magnas gratias reddimus in primis Deo, a quo est omnis bona voluntas. . . . deinde vobis, pro omnibus bonis quæ nobis facitis et promittitis. In hoc enim monstratis bene quia amor vester, quem semper habuistis ad nostrum Monasterium, nunquam decrescit. . . . Omnipotens Deus, et sancta Mater ejus Maria, quos quotidie rogamus pro vobis, et pro quorum amore nobis facitis omnia, illa vobis retribuunt in Regno Cælorum. Fratres nostros vobis mittimus, sicut jussistis. Commendamus ergo vobis illos, ut sicut vadunt in Angliam vestra jussione et vestra spe; ita omnino sit in vestra cura et vestra providentia quid illi faciant, aut quomodo aut unde vivant." Anselmi Abbatidis Becci Epist. Lib. II. 6. edit. Paris. 1721.

A monitory epistle, addressed by this celebrated Abbot to some of the French Monks (whom he had sent into England to colonise the Alien Priories subjected at this period to Bec) contains a severe rebuke of a disorderly Brother. Although it cannot be ascertained to what *particular* Convent he belonged, yet a short extract from this curious epistle will probably be read with interest.—"Brother Anselm Abbot of Bec, to his Brethren and dear Sons Richard and others from the Congregation of Bec,

The precise order of Monks established in this Cell by Anselm, does not appear to be clearly un-

now living in England, health, paternal blessing, and love. If you live discretely, prosperously, peacefully, and near to God, my soul congratulates you with a brotherly and paternal affection. As for Mr. Henry, lately the Chamberlain, I hear that he acts disorderly in many things, particularly in drinking; so that in public companies he drinks with sottish persons, and is intoxicated. If this be true, I cannot express how my heart mourns over so great a fall of our Brother. As far, therefore, as an Abbot can prohibit a Monk, I forbid him to presume to drink either in any public company, or at sottish meetings. I further enjoin, that he approve his penitence to Archbishop Lanfranc, or to Bishop Gondulf, or to you; and that, with the help of God, he carefully abstain from intoxication and from malicious language. If he remain incorrigible, notwithstanding any service which we might derive from him in England, let him return to us for wholesome discipline, rather than be irrecoverably lost for want of seasonable correction.”—“*Frater Anselmus, dictus abbas Beccensis, Fratribus et Filiis carissimis, Richardo et aliis de Beccensi Congregatione in Anglia conversantibus, salutem et paternam cum dilectione benedictionem. Si sane, si prospere, si denique concorditer et secundum Deum vivitis, congratulatur caritati vestræ fraterno et paterno affectu anima mea. . . . De Domino Henrico, qui Camerarius fuit, audio quia in multis inordinate se agit, et maxime in bibendo; ita ut in Gildis cum ebriosis bibat, et cum eis inebrietur. Quod si verum est, dicere non possum quantum cor meum de tanta Fratris perditione doleat. . . . Quantum igitur Abbas debet prohibere Monacho, tantum ego. . . . prohibeo, ne. . . . amplius in Gilda, aut in conventu eorum qui ad inebriandum solum conveniunt, bibere audeat. Hoc quoque præcipio, ut de præterita inordinatione, si eam negare non potest, Domini nostri Lanfranci Archiepiscopi, aut Domini Episcopi Gondulfi, aut vestro iudicio prænitere non negligat: ac deinceps curam se custodiendi ab ebrietate et a malitiosis verbis cum Dei auxilio habeat. At si se*

derstood. Leland (on his visit to this Monastery in the reign of Henry VIII.) was informed that “Anselm introduced from France *White Monks* of a different profession, however, from the Cisterrians^g”. Bishop Tanner suggests that they were Tironensians^h; but Stevens asserts that the earliest House of that denomination was not founded till thirty years laterⁱ. Whatever was the precise Order, the Monks placed in Neotsbury by Abbot Anselm were reformed Benedictines with a white habit; which was afterwards, however, changed for the black dress, for this Priory (like the Mother Abbey) became a regular Benedictine House.

Some doubts (it should seem) being entertained whether the remains of Neot were actually preserved in the Convent,—since they had been at least temporarily removed to Croyland, and since the Monastery had been pillaged by the Danes,—the French Abbot came to Neotsbury in person.

corrigere noluerit omnino, malo, contempta omni utilitate quam per eum in Anglia debemus habere, ut ad nos sub disciplina regendus redeat, quam ut longe a disciplina perdendus remaneat.” Anselmi Epist. Lib. II. 7. edit. Paris. 1721.

^g “In quo [Cœnobio] fuerunt ad multos annos *Monachi Nigri*, donec Anselmus Archi. Cant. introduxit Gallos *Monachos Albos*.” “Ab Anselmo ex Gallia *Monachi Albi* evocati, qui alius professionis sunt quam Bernardini.” Leland, Coll. Vol. III. p. 10.

^h Tanner's Notitia, edit. Nasmith, Pref. p. x. note m.

ⁱ Stevens' Continuation of Dugdale, Vol. II. p. 256.

This visit was made in 1078-9, in the course of an extensive tour for the purpose of inspecting the English possessions of the Church of Bec^k. Having arrived at the Priory, Abbot Anselm proceeded to examine the Shrine, which was of the portable kind called a Feretory. Within were found all the bones of "the precious Confessor Neot"; with the exception of one arm, which was reported to have been left in Cornwall, but which was probably pilfered by the Monks of Croyland when they were intrusted with the care of these remains. The bones were immediately re-enclosed in the same Shrine; one "moderate" relic^l, alone, having been retained by the Norman Abbot, "in token of the veneration in which he held the memory of the Saint!" The Shrine^m was then di-

^k "Habebat præterea ipsum Cœnobium [Beccense] plures possessiones in Anglia, quas pro communi Fratrum utilitate necesse erat per Abbatis præsentiam nonnunquam visitari. Ipso itaque suæ ordinationis [in Abbatem] anno, Anselmus in Angliam profectus est. . . . Terras Ecclesiæ Beccensis per Angliam adiit, utilitati Monachorum suorum per omnia studiose secundum Deum serviens. Vadens autem et ad diversa Monasteria Monachorum, Canonicorum, Sanctimonialium, lætissime suscipiebatur Iter repetendi Normanniam ingreditur ditatus multiplici dono, quod honori ac utilitati Ecclesiæ suæ usque hodie servire dignoscitur." Eadmeri Cantuar. Monachi, De Vita Anselmi, Lib. I. pp. 10, 11. edit. Paris, 1721.

^l This was, probably, the jaw-bone; since it was still preserved at the Abbey of Bec in 1680 [Mabillon, Acta Sanct. Ord. Bened. Sec. IV. P. II. p. 338.]

^m The *Shrine* of Neot is first mentioned in 1003, when the

ligently sealed and locked: to prevent idle inspection, as well as further theft, the key was carried by the Abbot to France, that it might be carefully preserved in the Church of Bec. Anselm, when afterwards promoted to the See of Canterbury, addressed a Testimonialⁿ of this in-

remains of Neot were carried to Croyland “in a Shrine (*Scrinium*) adapted to the purpose;” from which expression it seems probable that the original Shrine was left at St. Neot’s [see p. 56.].—It is here spoken of, as inspected by Abbot Anselm in 1078-9, and as having its key kept at the Mother Abbey in Normandy.—The Sacristan’s Cartulary has a Deed (of Century XIII.) conveying two acres of land, at Chalvesterne, Bedfordshire, for the repair of the Shrine (*Feretrum*), and contains many other gifts, for wax-lights to be kept continually burning before it [Cartulary, MSS. Stowe III. 88. (see App. XVIII.)].—The Monks of Bury St. Edmund’s allude to it at the close of Century XIV. (1377—1409), as “a Shrine (*Scrinium*) not a little costly” which at that time was “shewn to visitors by the Brethren of Bec inhabiting the Monastery of St. Neot.” [Interpolation in the Bury Copy of John de Tinmouth’s *Historia Aurea*, Book XVIII. Chap. LXV. (see App. V. B.)].—The opinion of Mr. Whitaker that the stone pedestal, which supported this Shrine or Feretory, is still preserved in the Church of St. Neot’s, is a palpable mistake. [See this Volume, Chap. IV. § II.].

ⁿ Archives of Lincoln Cathedral, “Memoranda Oliveri Sutton,” ff. 122 b. and 123 a. [App. VI.].—A Monk of Bec in the middle of Cent. XII. considers the fact of the body being at St. Neot’s as undisputed: “NEOTI vitā laudabilē videre poteris p flumen Usæ decurrens usque in Huntendunesyre ubi corp^o ei^o sanctissimū pausat; splenduit tempore Regis Alfredi et Marini Papæ.” Roberti de Monte Torrineio *Chronicon*, MSS. Harl. 651. f. 150 a.—It was, probably, at the beginning of Century XIII.,

spection, to "the Bishop of Lincoln, and to all who desire to know the truth concerning the body of the blessed Confessor Neot." In the same document, he exhorted the pious to contribute liberally towards the erection of the Conventual Church: it appears, therefore, that the Monastery erected here, about a Century before, by Earl Alric, was either rebuilt or very considerably enlarged immediately after the Conquest.

The Alien Priory, having been thus commended to the charity of the devout, soon began to obtain celebrity, and to be enriched by pious donations.

The earliest benefaction, recorded in the Cartulary, occurs in 1100. In that year Matilda de St. Liz, (daughter of Simon first Earl of Huntingdon, and wife of Robert fifth son of Richard Fitz-Gilbert de Clare,) gave to the Convent one third of her Manor of Cratefield in Suffolk. This gift was bestowed with the stipulation, that the Brethren of St. Neot's "should receive into their House two Priests with the Monkish habit to be perpetually maintained by this endowment."

The principal endowment, however, was that of Rohais wife of Richard Fitz-Gilbert de Clare.

that the Monks of Croyland *first* asserted that the body remained in their Abbey (see p. 57. note v.).

° Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 79 b. [App. XVI. C.].

A. D. 1113, she gave to the Monks the whole of her manor of St. Neot's^p. Rohaïs was, consequently, reputed the second Foundress. This donation was confirmed in 1250, by Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford^q.

From the returns made upon official Valuations, it appears, that the annual income of the Monastery in 1291^r was 198*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*; in 1534^s it was estimated at 256*l.* 1*s.* 3½*d.*; and in 1540^t the Ministers' Account stated it as 256*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.* In 1544^u the property of the late Convent was valued at 233*l.* 15*s.* 8½*d.* More minute information, respecting the nature and History of the grants of land, tithes, rents, &c., made at different periods, may be obtained by reference to the titles of Deeds^v contained in the Cartularies of the Priory, and to such extracts^x as are given in the Appendix. It will be sufficient here to mention the places in which the possessions of the Convent were situated.

^p Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 45 b. [App. XVI. A.].

^q Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 27 b. [App. XVI. B.].

^r Taxation of Pope Nicholas, 19 Edw. II. [App. XXIII.].

^s Valuation of St. Neot's Priory, 26 Hen. VIII., First Fruits Office, [App. XXVII.].

^t Valuation of St. Neot's Priory, 32 Hen. VIII., Augmentation Office, [App. XXVIII.].

^u Valuation of St. Neot's Priory, 36 Hen. VIII., MSS. Brit. Mus. Harleian 701. (formerly in the Augmentation Office.).

^v Appendix XV., and Appendix XVII.

^x Appendix XVI., and Appendix XVIII.

BEDFORDSHIRE: Barford^y; Beeston; Begory; Bidenho; Blesworth; Blunham; Bushmead; Caldecot; Chalvesterne; Charlton; Colesden; Colmworth; Crandon; Dulow; Eaton-Socon; Eaton-Ford; Edworth; Girtford; Kim'wick; Mogerhanger; Roxton; Salston; Sandy; Staplow; Temsford; Thorneote; Turvey^y; Wyboston.—CAMBRIDGESHIRE: Bourne; Caxton; Croxton; Gamlingay; Granchester; Madingley^z; Wells [Upwell?].—ESSEX: Wimbish.—HERTFORDSHIRE: Westmill.—HUNTINGDONSHIRE: Abbotsley; Buckworth; Caldecot; Everton; Eynesbury^a; Hail-Weston; Midlow; Monks'-Hardwick; Of-

^y The Exchequer Records, respecting the Alien Priories, give the following curious account, [see App. XXIV.] of the stock, kept on the farms at Turvey and Barford by the Prior of St. Neot's (for the Abbot of Bec,) in the reign of Edward I.

		£	s.	d.
At Turvey;	2 Cart Horses, each 4s.	0	8	0
	4 Avers [Pack-Horses], each 3s.	0	12	0
	10 Oxen, each 6s. 8d.	3	6	8
	3 Cows, each 6s. 8d.	1	0	0
	3 Heifers, each 2s.	0	6	0
	30 Swine, each 1s. 4d. }	2	5	6
	11 Pigs, each 6d. }			
	18 Geese, each 2d.	0	3	0
	1 Cock and 5 Hens	0	0	6
At Barford;	2 Avers, each 5s.	0	10	0
	4 Oxen, each 6s. 8d.	1	6	8
	1 Cow,	0	4	0
	1 Cock and 5 Hens,	0	0	6

^z Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 76 a. [App. XVI. D.].

^a Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. ff. 89 a. 67 a. b. [App. XVI. F. G. H. I.].

ford D'Arcey [Denys, MS.]; Paxton; Puttock's-Hardwick; St. Neot's^b; Tetworth; Waresley^c; Weald; Wintringham.—NORFOLK: Beecham-Well; Burton-Bendish; Marchford. — NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: Barnwell-St. Andrews; Brampton-Dingley; Clopton; Hemington.—OXFORDSHIRE: Cotesford. —RUTLAND: Wing.—SUFFOLK: Cratefield^d; Heveningham; Ubbeston.—WILTSHIRE: Boscombe, and Cheldreton.

Henry I., about 1137, granted to the Prior and Convent the privilege of a Market^e on Thursdays. He also granted them three chartered Fairs: to be held, 1. on Ascension-day^e, its eve, and the following day; 2. on the day of the Imprisonment^e of St. Peter, its eve, and the following day; 3. on the Festival^f of St. Neot, its eve, and the succeeding day. (See Chap. IV. § II.)

Several valuable Fisheries, at Wells^g [Upwell?] in Cambridgeshire, were given to the Monks of

^b Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. ff. 45 b. 27 b. 37 a. 45 b. 47 a. [App. XVI. A. B. C. D. E.].

^c Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 90 a. [App. XVI. C.].

^d Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. ff. 79 a. b. [App. XVI. C. D.].

^e Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 47 a. [App. XVI. E.].
—Roll Quo Waranto, Tower, 14 Ed. I. Com. Hunt' m. 4. [App. XXII.]

^f Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. ff. 45 b. 46 b. 47 a. [App. XVI. F.].

^g Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 21 b. [App. XVI. G.].

St. Neot's by the Foundress Rohais, in the reign of Henry I.—They possessed, also, a Fishery at Marchford in Norfolk.—Two Fisheries^h in the Ouse, between St. Neot's and Eaton, were given to the Convent, in the reign of Henry II. or Richard I., by Hugh de Beauchamp, Lord of the neighbouring Castle of Eaton-Socon on the banks of that river.—Another Fisheryⁱ in the Ouse, was given, in the time of King John, by William de Sudbury (in the parish of Eaton).

Hugh de Beauchamp gave the Monks liberty to take fuel, from his woods in Eaton-Socon, for the kitchen of their Convent^k.

The perpetual Advowson of 20 Churches belonged to this Priory; viz. BEDFORDSHIRE: 1. Edworth; 2. Melchburn; 3. Tensford; 4. Turvey.—HUNTINGDONSHIRE: 5. Everton; 6. Eynesbury; 7. St. Neot's.—NORFOLK: 8. Burton-Bendish; 9. Beecham-Well.—NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: 10. Brampton-Dingley; 11. Hemington.—OXFORDSHIRE: 12. Cotesford.—RUTLAND: 13. Wing.—SUFFOLK: 14. Cratefield; 15. Heveningham; 16. Ubbeston.—WARWICKSHIRE: 17. Pillerton.—WILTSHIRE: 18. Boscombe; 19. Cheldreton.—20. Auca (the County unknown).—Six of these Livings were ap-

^h Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 82 a. [App. XVI. *uu*.].

ⁱ Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 67 a. [App. XVI. *v*.].

^k Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 81 a.

propriated Rectories; viz. Turvey, Everton, St. Neot's, Hemington, Cratefield, and Ubbeston. Eynesbury, and Burton-Bendish, appear to have been once appropriated, but only belonged to the Priory temporarily.

1. The Advowson of EDWORTH (St. George's) was given to the Prior and Convent of St. Neot's, between 1175—1181, by Roger Burnard.¹

2. MELCHBURN (St. Mary's) was given to the Monks of St. Neot's by Richard de Clare, in the reign of Henry I. or Stephen. In 1176 the right of Advowson was disputed by the Brethren of St. John of Jerusalem; to whom the Prior and Convent gave it up, retaining only the Chapel of Knotting^m.

3. The Church of TEMSFORD (St. Peter's) became the property of this Monastery in 1129; being the gift of Robert de Carun, when his grandson Anselm took the habit of a Monk at St. Neot's. On 15 April in that year, Robert de Carun presented the Monks with a Crucifix and five Representations of the Passion of Christ, for the Conventual Chapelⁿ.

4. TURVEY (All-Saints') was given to the Convent by William le Heyr, in the reign of Richard I.^o: the Rectory was *appropriated* to the use of the Convent on 19 Nov. 1194, and Richard de

¹ Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 57 a. [App. XVI. §.].

^m Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 112 b.

ⁿ Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 83 a. [App. XVI. ¶.].

^o Hund. Roll. Tower, 7 Ed. I. n. 1. m. 5

Weston was presented to the Vicarage^p.—The tithes which belonged to St. Neot's were granted in 1600, to the Bishop of Ely*.

5. EVERTON (St. Mary's) was given "to his Monks" by Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Pembroke, 1137—1148^q. It does not appear when it was *appropriated*.

6. EYNESBURY (St. Mary's). It appears that one-third of the tithes of Eynesbury had been "settled in the Monastery of St. Neot's by arbitrary consecration"^r in a very antient period. The Advowson was given to the Monks by Simon de St. Liz, first Earl of Huntingdon of that name, during the incumbency of Walfrid, about the time of William Rufus; it was confirmed to them by Earl Henry, son of the King of Scotland^s. It was *appropriated* in 1194, on condition that the Prior and Convent, being situated close to the great "Thoroughfare and celebrated Road" from London to York, should "give meat and drink, for the love of God, to all who should ask them^t." A few years after, the right of presentation was litigated by Saher de Quinci; it is not known on what plea. In 1201

^p Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 40 a. [App. XVI. *u*.].
—Bull of Celestine III. Cott. Charters XII. 39. [App. XX.].

* Patent Rolls, Rolls Chapel, 42 Eliz. p. 9.

^q Cartulary, MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 73 a. [App. XVI. *z*.].

^r Selden's Hist. Tithes, p. 334.—See also Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 89 a. [App. XVI. *ff*.].

^s Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 67 b. 48 a. [App. XVI. *th*.].

^t Bull of Celestine III., Cott. Charters XII. 39. [App. XX.].



a Bull of Innocent III.^u was obtained for an amicable Composition between the parties, and the dispute was finally settled in 1204: the Advowson was ceded to Saher de Quinci, and has ever since descended with the manor of Eynesbury; certain portions of tithes were acknowledged to belong to the Priory, the particulars of which may be seen in the Appendix^v.

A Chapel in the hamlet of WEALD, in the parish of Eynesbury, was given to the Priory by Alan Dapifer, Lord of Weald; on condition that the Monks should perform Divine service there three times in each week^w. This Chapel was, probably, founded soon after the Conquest; since Alan Dapifer then held 2 hides of land in Eynesbury of Judith Countess of Huntingdon.

7. St. NEOT'S (St. Mary's). The parochial Church of St. Neot's was probably erected, and given to the Priory, about the time of the 3d Council of Lateran, 1179 (See Chap. IV. § I. and § II.). The Rectory was *appropriated* to the use of the Monastery in the time of Pope Lucius III.^x; consequently, about 1183. At the Dis-

^u Cited in Cartulary, MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 129.

^v Cartulary MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 42 b. 43 a. 89 a. [App. G.]. Also, Cartulary of the Priory of Newnham, Beds., MSS. Harleian 3656. f. 56.

^w Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 67 a. [App. XVI. E.].

^x Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 37 a [App. XVI. F.].

solution, the perpetual Advowson of the Vicarage was retained by the Crown: for the History of the Rectorial tithes, see Chap. IV. § IV.

A Chapel in the hamlet of WINTRINGHAM, in the parish of St. Neot's, founded by William Brito about 1218, belonged to the Priory^y.

8. BURTON-BENDISH (St. Andrew's) was given to the Monks of St. Neot's by Roger de Clare, Earl of Hertford, a little earlier than 1172. The Rectory was *appropriated* 1175—1180^z.

9. BEECHAM-WELL (All-Saints'?). Given by Roger de Clare, Earl of Hertford, before 1172.^a

10. BRAMPTON-DINGLEY (St. Mary's) once belonged to the Monks of St. Neot's. In 1373 the Prior and Convent, with the consent of Edward III., transferred the Advowson to John de Holte, retaining an annual pension of 5*l.*^b.

11. HEMINGTON (St. Peter's). This Rectory was *appropriated* about 1170; Roger being then the Incumbent^c.

12. COTESFORD (St. Mary's). Given by Roger Burnard between 1175—1181^d. It does not appear how long the Prior of St. Neot's continued

^y Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 59 a. [App. XVI. **R.**].

^z Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 77 b. 44 a. [App. XVI. **O.**].

^a Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 77 b. [App. XVI. **P.**].

^b Patent Rolls, Tower, 47 Ed. III. p. 1. m. 5.

^c Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 40 b. 41 a. [App. XVI. **R.**].

^d Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 57 a. [App. XVI. **S.**].

to present to this Living: it was in the patronage of the Abbot of Bec 1276—1317^e, and probably for a longer period.

13. WING (St. Peter's and St. Paul's) was in the patronage of the Prior and Convent. But in 1209 the right of presentation was litigated between the Prior and Thurstan, Baron de Montfort: the Advowson was determined to belong to the Prior and Convent; and the right was confirmed to them in 1245 by Peter, Baron de Montfort^f.

14. CRATEFIELD (St. Mary's).—William de Albeni Brito, Baron of Belvoir, son of Matilda de St. Liz, bestowed this Advowson upon the Monks of St. Neot's, between 1154—1167^g. The exact period of *appropriation* is unknown. At the Dissolution, the Rectory and Advowson of the Vicarage were granted by Edward VI. to Thomas Sidney and Nicholas Haleswell.

15. HEVENINGHAM (St. Margaret's) was given, before 1198, by Walter, Baron of Dunmow, son of Robert de Clare^h.—The King is now patron.

16. UBBESTON (St. Peter's) was given by the same^h. The date of the *appropriation* is unknown.

^e Kennet's Parochial Antiquities.

^f Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 92 a. [App. XVI. **Q**.].

^g Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 79 a. [App. XVI. **R**.].

^h Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 78 a. [App. XIV. **PI**.].

In 1544, the Advowson of the Vicarage was given to John Pope, Esq.

17. PILLERTON once belonged to the Prior and Convent of St. Neot's. There was a litigation between the Monks and Thomas Basset on the right of presentation; but in 1212 they came to an agreement to present jointlyⁱ.

18. EAST BOSCOMBE (St. Andrew's) was given to the Monastery by Roger Burnard, between 1175—1181^k. Being of little value, and distant from the Monastery, it was transferred to the Bishop of Salisbury^l, on his petition, in 1226.

19. WEST CHILDECRETON (St. Nicholas) was given at the same time as the preceding^m, and was probably transferred to the Bishop of Salisbury for the same reason.

20. The Church of AUCA was given to this Priory, about 1170, by Gilbert de Montfichetⁿ:—it is not known what place is intended.

The patronage of the Priory of St. Neot belonged to the family De Clare: it descended,

ⁱ Pleas at Westm., Chapter House, 13 John, Mic. term, roll 11 (on the back); and 14 John, Trin. term, roll 3.

^k Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 57 a. [App. XVI. §.].

^l Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 111 a.

^m Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 111 a.

ⁿ Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 37 a.

through the Earls^o of Gloucester and Hertford, to the last Earl, Gilbert de Clare, in 1313. Matilda Countess of Gloucester (widow of the last Earl) was patroness in 1317^o. Ralph Earl of Stafford, having married Margaret daughter and coheir of the said Earl Gilbert de Clare, became the next patron. The patronage was in the Staffords in 1372 and in 1414: it probably continued in that family till the Dissolution.

Henry Prior of St. Neot's was called to Parliament, by a summons from Worcester on 4 Dec. 1264, among "a prodigious crowd" of others, by Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, on the pretended authority of the captive King Henry III^p.

The number of Monks supported by this Establishment was originally *fifteen*, besides the Prior^q; before 1339 it had been reduced to *twelve* Brethren^q, which was probably the usual number till the Dissolution; *eleven* signed the acknowledgment of the King's Supremacy in 1534^r; but no

^o See the List of Priors of St. Neot's: also, Hund. Roll, Tower, 7 Ed. 1. n. 5. m. 1.

^p Close Rolls, 49 Hen. III. m. 11. on the back: printed in Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. I. p. 449. edit. 1816.—The whole number of Heads of religious Houses who sat in Parliament in that year, was 64 Abbots and 36 Priors. Edward III. reduced them to 25 Abbots and 2 Priors.

^q Inquis. Ad quod Damnum, Tower, 13 Ed. III. n. 59.

^r See the Instrument, in App. XII.

more than *seven* appear as having received pensions at the Surrender in 1539^s.

The Conventual Seal (as found attached to an Instrument^r in the Chapter House at Westminster) is represented in the annexed Engraving. The



Virgin, crowned and seated under a trefoiled canopy, holds in her left arm the Infant Jesus; her right hand presents a Prior's Staff to a figure in a kneeling posture. It is probably intended to represent the delegation of the pastoral charge

^s MS. in Augmentation Office, "Pensions temp. Hen. VIII." p. 92. [App. XIII.].

to a Monk, who, from his diminutive stature (see p. 31.), may perhaps have been intended for Neot, the first Abbot of the Cornish House, and the tutelary Saint and patron of the Huntingdonshire Convent. The ground is diapered. The inscription (restored) is,

SIGILLVM PRIORIS ET CONVENTVS ECCLESIE SCI NEOTI

The Die of this Seal was probably cut early in Century XIII. : the design is rude.

A small Seal, (annexed to a Discharge in 1383 for a portion of tithes in Granchester received by the Prior of St. Neot's from the Master of Bene't College Cambridge, and preserved among the Archives of that Society,) was seen by Mr. Cole^t in 1747. The design is, a man's head filleted with a wreath; in the area, ^P_R. It was, probably, the private Seal of the Prior, William de St. Vedast, or of his deputy John Shyrebourne by whom the Receipt is signed.

The Arms of the Convent are unknown. A shield displaying a Chevron, under a canopy for the Virgin on the tower of the parochial Church of St. Neot's, may be *conjectured* to have been the Bearing of the Monastery (see the Engraving, Chap. IV. § II.). A Cross bottonnée, and a Cross double-fitchée, appear also on the roof of the Church : the latter, having clearly been removed from some other situation, was *possibly* brought from the Conventual Chapel at the Dissolution.

^t MSS. Brit. Mus. Cole, Vol. XXVI. p. 197.—It is not now (1819) to be found among the Bene't Archives.

The following persons (to omit others, of less memorable record, mentioned in the Cartularies) were interred in the Priory of St. Neot:—

1. The WARDEN of Neot's Shrine in Cornwall, who brought the remains to Eynesbury about 974, was honored with sepulture in the Convent^u. Leland has asserted that BARIUS (the confidential companion of Neot during his eremitical life) was buried here^v: this is clearly a mistake, derived from a false tradition mentioned by John de Tinnmouth, who asserts that the body of Neot was brought into Huntingdonshire by Barius^w, whereas it was not removed from Cornwall till a Century later (see pp. 48—50).

2. SIMON DE ST. LIZ, first Earl of Huntingdon of that name, and a considerable benefactor to the Priory, was certainly buried within its walls^x in the reign of William Rufus. Other statements, however, assert that he was buried in the Convent of St. Mary of Charity in France^y. It is probable, therefore, that the body was removed from the French Convent to the Priory of St. Neot, by his family, soon after the first interment.

^u Life of Neot, MSS. Bodley, 535. [App. III.].

^v "Barius, Neoti servus, ibidem sepultus." Leland, Coll. Vol. III. p. 10.

^w John de Tinnmouth's Sanctilogium, MSS. Cott. Tib. E. I. [App. V. B.].

^x Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 79 b. [App. XVI. C.]; —also, Dugdale's Baronage, Vol. I. p. 113.

^y Cartulary of St. Andrew's Northampton (quoted in Dugdale's Monasticon, Vol. I. p. 679);—also, Dugdale's Baronage, Vol. I. p. 58.

3. ROBERT, Baron of Dumnou, fifth son of Richard Fitz-Gilbert DE CLARE, was interred here in the last year of the reign of Richard I.^z. It is not certain that any other members of the Founder's family were buried at St. Neot's^a.

Like the other Alien Priories, that of St. Neot became the property of the English Crown on the breaking out of the French wars, and was restored to the Abbey of Bec on the return of peace. A writ occurs in 1244*, in which Henry III. commands the Sheriff of Hunts. to restore the Priory of St. Neot which he had seized in the King's name.—It was probably seized by Edward I. in 1285; it was retained by Edward II.; and restored by Edward III. in 1327^b.—This Cell was again seized by Edward III. in 1337^c: the estates, which had been let at his pleasure, were restored in 1361^d.—Another sequestration occurred shortly after; for we find this Priory in the King's hands in 1370^e:

^z Cartulary, MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 78 a. [App. XVI. *ff.*]; also, MSS. Lansdowne 921. p. 82.

^a Dugdale says that Richard Fitz-Gilbert de Clare "having been slain in Wales shortly after the death of Henry I. was buried at St. Neot's" [Baronage, Vol. I. p. 207]; but the references from the Baronage to the Monasticon do not sustain this assertion.

* Close Rolls, Tower, 29 Hen. III. m. 10. (back).

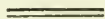
^b Close Rolls, Tower, 1 Edw. III. p. 1. m. 22. [App. VII.].

^c Gasgoigne Rolls, Tower, 11 Edw. III. m. 23.—Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. IV. p. 777.

^d Patent Rolls, Tower, 35 Edw. III. p. 1. m. 14. [App. VIII.].

^e Exchequer Records, 44 Edw. III. [App. XXVI.]

the possessions were restored by Henry IV. in 1399, William de Saint Vedast being then Prior^f.



III. THE PRIORY OF ST. NEOT MADE AN INDIGENOUS HOUSE.

At length, in the year 1409, this Convent was relieved from the jurisdiction of the foreign Abbey of Bec, and received the privilege of Denization, by Letters Patent of Henry IV.^g. The Priory was then in the patronage of Humphrey Earl of Stafford, afterwards Duke of Buckingham. The reasons for rendering it independent of the French House are stated to have been—that Divine Services had been much neglected, and that the Establishment was in danger of being finally subverted, on account of the mal-administration and unworthy conduct of some preceding Alien Priors, and of the immense debts which they had incurred. It was, therefore, decreed, by an Order in Council, that Edward Salisbury, a native of England (who had been presented to the Priorate in 1405), should preside over this House as Indigenous, and no longer subject to the control of the Abbey of Bec; that his successors should be chosen only from natives of the Realm; and that none but English Monks should, from that time, be received into the Convent.

^f Patent Rolls, Tower, 1 Hen. IV. p. 2. m. 13. [App. IX.].

^g Patent Rolls, Tower, 10 Hen. IV. p. 2. m. 23. [App. X.].

In 1414, the Prior and Convent petitioned Henry V. to confirm the Letters Patent of Henry IV. for their Denization, and to cause them to be “enacted and enrolled in due form in the Roll of Parliament, for the honor of God and as a work of charity:” which Petition^h, having been received in both Houses, obtained the Royal assent.

IV. DISSOLUTION OF THE PRIORY OF ST. NEOT.

In 1534ⁱ an acknowledgment of the King's Supremacy was signed by John Rawnds, Prior of St. Neot's, and eleven^k Monks; viz. 1. Richard Staughton, 2. Thomas Staughton, 3. Richard Rawnds, 4. John Wintringham, 5. Richard Newbold, 6. Robert Neot, 7. William Barford, 8. William London, 9. John Artylborough, 10. Edmund Cambridge, 11. Robert Gamlingay. This Deed (to which the Priory Seal, represented in p. 80, is

^h Parl. Rolls, Tower, 2 Hen. V. p. 2. m. 9. [App XI.].

ⁱ The Officers of the Convent, at this period, were, S^r William Gascoigne, head steward; Thomas Fitzhugh, sub-steward; Henry Comber, auditor; Thomas Tonny, bailiff for the market of St. Neot's; Robert Hatley, bailiff for the town; John Wilson, bailiff for the Counties of Huntingdon, Northampton, and Rutland; John Clark, bailiff for Bedford and Cambridge; William Frewelove, bailiff for Suffolk, Norfolk, and Essex. [App. XXVII.].

^k Mis-stated as “nine,” in Willis' Abbies, Vol. II. p. 95.

annexed) was given in the Chapter House of the Convent, on 26 July 1534; each Monk "having subscribed his proper name with his own hand :"—

Domynus Johes Radwys for 16m
 Domynus Ricardus Stanton
 Domynus Thomas Stowton
 Domynus Ricardus Radwys

Domynus Johes Wynterghim
 Domynus Ricardus Werbolde
 Domynus Robertus Neale
 Domynus Willm. Sarford

Domynus Willm. London
 Domynus Joes Ditzbozo
 Domynus Edmundus Carembrygge
 Domynus Ricardus garymblyngay

This Instrument is preserved in the Chapter House at Westminster: it is published in the Appendix [App. XII.].

The Convent was finally surrendered into the King's hands on 21 December 1539¹. At that

¹ MS. Augmentation Office, "Pensions Temp. Hen. VIII." p. 92. [App. XIII.].

time John Rawnds was still Prior, and there were seven Monks; viz. 1. Richard Staughton *alias* Andrews, 2. Richard Carnaby, 3. Robert Hatley, 4. William Tybye, 5. William London *alias* Goche, 6. John Wiseman, 7. Robert Nichols. Prior Rawnds received a pension of 40*l.*; the Monks were allowed pensions varying from 8*l.* to 5*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*¹ The Prior died in the following year. In 1554 there remained a charge of pensions for five surviving Monks^m (Richard Staughton and William London being probably deceased).

On 18 February 1542, the site of the Priory, its demesne-farm and lands at Monks'-Hardwick, (together with certain lands at Eaton and Colmworth) were granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Richard Williams *alias* Cromwell Knt. of Hinchinbrook; a great favorite of the King, who reaped a rich harvest from the spoils of Abbey lands. This grantⁿ was made in consideration of the manors of Brampton, Hemingford Grey, &c. transferred to the King by a Deed of Exchange^o. The particulars may be seen by the extract in

^m Original Pension Roll, 2 and 3 Phil. and Mary. [App. XIV.]. This valuable MS. (recently presented to the British Museum) is written on 77 skins of parchment, signed, by the Queen's own hand, "*Mary the Quene.*"

ⁿ Grant in the Rolls Chapel, Patent Rolls 33 Hen. VIII. p. 6. m. 37.

^o Deed of Exchange in the Augmentation Office, 18 Feb. 33 Hen. VIII.

the marginⁿ. The site of the Priory contained 49 acres; the demesne farm, 364 acres; and the Monastery lands at Monks'-Hardwick, 672 acres.

" " Indenture made betwene the most excellent Prynce of famous memory oure naturall Souereyne and lege Lord Henry y^e eyght and Syr Rychard Will^ams othe'wyse called Sr Rychard Cromwell Knyght one of the Gentyllmen of his gracis p'uyue chamber." " And further o^r sayd Souereign Lorde is pleasid and contented to bargayne and sell to y^e sayde Syr Richard all y^t his scite circuyte compas and precincte of the late Monastrye of SEYNT NEOTS comely callid SEYNT NEDYS in y^e Countye of Huntynghton nowe dissolued And also all and sing'ler messuags houses buyldyngs curtylagis gardens orchards w^t y^e grounde and soyle of y^e same waters pounds fysshpoles fysshyngs profytts comodits and all other his hereditaments whatsoever they be scituat lyinge or beyng^e w^t in y^e same scite circuyte compas or precincte of y^e same late Monasterye of SEYNT NEOTS or that heretofore hath bene reputed esteemed or taken as perte or percell of y^e same scite circuyte or compas And also all the singler those his messuags lands tenements medowis fedyngs pasture woods vnderwoods rents reuersions seruices tithes oblac'ons obvenç'ons quarres marshes pooles waters fysshyngs warrens profytts comodyts and all other his hereditaments comonly called the demeane lands of the sayde late monasterye of SEYNT NEOTS otherwyse called SEYNT NEEDS lying or beinge in the townes felds parishis or hameletts of SEYNT NEDS WYNTERINGHAME and HARDEWYKE in y^e sayde countye of Hunt' and in the towne felds parishe or hameletts of ETON and COLMORTH in y^e county of Bēdds or of eyther of them and now or late in y^e tenure or occupac'on of y^e forenamed Syr Richard or of his assignes by reson and force of a certen lease made to the sayde Syr Richard by the late P^{or} and Convent of the same late Monastery whose date is the 26 day of June in y^e 28 yere of y^e reyn of o^r sayde Souereign Lorde [1536] which sayde scite messuags lands tenemēts and other

For the subsequent possessors of this property, see Chap. IV. § IV.

It has been before observed that the Monastery and Conventual Chapel, at the first Foundation about 974, were built upon the bank of the Ouse, on the N. side of the present Market-Place of St. Neot's. As the Edifice had been much injured, perhaps nearly destroyed, by the Danes, when it was given to the flames in 1010 ; it was restored (p. 68) at the period of the second Foundation, soon after 1078. In the reign of Henry III., A. D. 1265, the Bell-tower of the Conventual Chapel fell ; at which time some royal Charters were lost in the ruins^a. Whether any parts of the Saxon or of the Norman Edifice were remaining at the period of the Dissolution, is unknown. Leland, who visited it in 1538, gives no account of its architecture. The Ministers' Account, referring to the property granted from the Crown to Sir Richard Cromwell in 1542, barely mentions (as "excepted and reserved") "the Church, the Cloisters, the

y^e premisses late were y^e demeane lands of y^e sayde late Monasterye of SEYNT NEOTS and late were and remayned in t'hands occupac'on and manurance of y^e late Abbot and Convent of y^e same late Monasterye of SEYNT NEOTS."—Deed of Exchange in the Augmentation Office, 18 February 33 Hen. VIII. [1542].

^a Roll Quo War. Tower, Com' Hunt' 14 Edw. I. m. 4. [App. XXII.].

Dormitory called LE DORTOR [*le Dortoir*], a certain Building denominated FRATER-HALL [the *Refectory*?], and the Store-Room called the BUTTERY[†]. The whole Edifice has now disappeared;

“ no more the glance
Of blazing taper through its windows beams,
And quivers on the undulating wave:”

BRUCE.

nor has it merely ceased to exist as a Monastic Establishment; not a single architectural trace remains[‡], by which the imagination might be assisted in rebuilding its ruined walls and restoring its mouldering arches. There is reason to conclude that, about 1589, the ruins of this Convent were used as a stone-quarry for building the adjoining bridge over the Ouse (see Chap. IV. § II.). The columns of the S. W. Gate, with the pointed arch forming the entrance to the Porter's Lodge[†],—the last vestiges of this Priory—were taken

[†] “*Ecel'ia, Claustra, Dormitoria voc' le Dortor, quadam Domo voc' Frater-Aula, et Promptuario vocat' le Buttery.*” Ministers' Account in the Augmentation Office (reciting an Indenture of 26 June 1536).

[‡] Some few arcade-pannels (with cinquefoiled heads), built into the foundation of a cellar on the N. side of the Market-Place, scarcely form an exception to this remark.

[†] The wall forming the S. boundary of the Priory, ran E. from this Porch through the yards of the houses which now form the N. side of the Market-Place; its foundations are frequently met with, and stone coffins sometimes occur on the N. side.



From the manuscript of the "Book of the Kings"

Published by the American Museum of Natural History, New York

down in 1814. Not a fragment of the Building is left upon the spot ;

“ Of it there now remains no memory,
Nor any little monument to see ;
By which the traveller that fares that way
‘ This once was it !’ may warned be to say.”

SPENSER.

Although not a single vestige of the Structure itself has escaped the ravages of time, there still remain five curious oaken pannels (formerly belonging to the interior of the Monastery) rudely embossed with some emblematical figures : it is uncertain what they have been designed to represent. 1. The first figure, habited as a Monk, (probably a mendicant Friar), holds a purse in his right hand. 2. The second, dressed as a female (perhaps intended for the Foundress), bears in her right hand a sword, the point of which rests on the ground. 3. The third appears to be a distorted representation of a warrior (St. Michael?): he has a sword in his right hand, a pair of scales on the left shoulder, and a crucifix suspended from the neck. 4. The fourth is in nearly the same costume : a rosary appears round the neck, and a scorpion on the cap or helmet. 5. An arabesque figure of a Monk, in a devotional attitude, occupies the remaining pannel. —Possibly figures 2. 3. and 4. may have been intended for allegorical representations of *Virgo*, *Libra*, and *Scorpio* ; having, perhaps, formed part

of a series of the signs of the Zodiac, which were favorite subjects in Catholic carvings and paintings.

Leland was shewn, in 1538, two memorials of Neot^u. 1. Neot's comb; made of a little bone of two fingers' breadth, into which were inserted small fishes' teeth, the whole having the appearance of a pike's jaw. 2. Neot's interior vest, made of hair-cloth, in the Irish manner.



PRIORS OF THE CONVENT OF ST. NEOT.

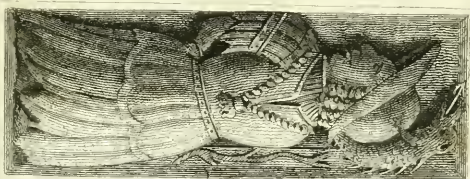
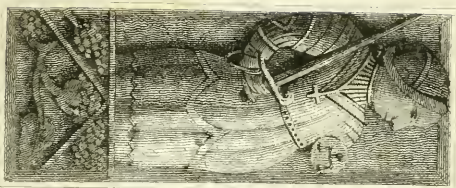
1. MARTIN DE VECTI, otherwise MARTIN DE BEC^v, (and by some called MARTIN COOK^w) is the first Prior of St. Neot's whose name is recorded. The time of his institution is unknown: it is probable that he was the first Prior of the Convent, upon its second Foundation by the Countess Rohais de Clare. In 1132 he was removed, by Henry I., to Peterborough, into which Abbey he was received by the Monks with great honor on St. Peter's day^x. Abbot MARTIN visited Rome,

^u "Vidi tunicam interiorem S. Neoti, ex panno villosa, more Hibernico. Pecten S. Neoti ex ossiculo duos digitos lato, insertis piscium denticulis, instar maxillæ lupi fluviatilis." Leland, Collectanea, Vol. III. p. 11.

^v Hugo Candidus, quoted in Gunton's Peterborough, p. 276.

^w Gunton's Peterborough, pp. 22, 23.

^x "Te King iaf þ̅ Abbot-riçe an Priop of S. NEOD, MÆRTIN par gehazen. þe com on S. Petres mæsse-dei mid mucel purpæpe into þe Mynstre." Saxon Chronicle, under the year 1132. p. 237. Bp. Gibson's edit.



Engraved by J. H. Stiles from a drawing by the artist of the same name for the Boston Herald.

A. D. 1146^y. “All,” says the Historian^y of Peterborough, “loved and feared him, for his honesty and his holiness; and all the time he governed, neither Monk nor stranger wanted any thing, but rather were provided for in abundance.” On the Sunday preceding the Nativity, 1155, he “fell sick and took his bed, and on 3 January 1156 he breathed his last: the Monks were overwhelmed with grief, and with tears exclaimed ‘They had lost their father^z.’” He was buried in the Chapter-House: his monument represents the Abbot, “holding a crosier and a book, treading on a double dragon who bites the pillars of the flowered arch of his canopy; it is now in the south aisle of the Cathedral^a.” The Abbots John, MARTIN, and Andrew, were interred in one grave, and their figures were brought into the Cathedral “from three arches of the Chapter-House now remaining in the south wall of the Cloister; over them is written on the wall,—

“*Hos tres Abbates, quorum est prior Abbas Johannes,
“Alter MARTINUS, Andreas ultimus, unus
“Hic claudit tumulus, pro clausis ergo rogemus.”*”

2. HERBERT, occurs Prior, in 1159 and 1173^c;

^y Gunton, pp. 276—282. edit. 1686.

^z Hugo Candidus, p. 89.

^a Gough's Sepulc. Mon. Vol. I. p. 24.: the monument is engraved in Plate III. fig. 2. p. 19. of that work.

^b Gough's Sepulc. Mon. Vol. I. p. 31.

^c Cartulary of St. Neot's Priory, MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV.

3. GALFRID, in 1199 and 1204^c;

4. WILLIAM, from 1206 to 1210^c;

5. ROGER, from 1218 to 1223^c.

6. REGINALD, having been presented with the pastoral Staff by the Abbot and Convent of Bec, was instituted into his office on 15 February 1226^d. He occurs in 1237^e.

7. HUGH DE FAGERNUM (otherwise HUGH DE FAGERTON^f) occurs in the year 1243^e.

8. HENRY DE MESSVILLE was promoted to this Priorate in 1248, on the resignation of Hugh de Fagerton^f. He presided over the Monks of St. Neot's for ten years; upon his resignation

9. WILLIAM DE BONESBOR' in 1258 was appointed to the vacant office, by the nomination of Richard Earl of Gloucester (then patron of this House), with the approbation of the Mother Abbey^f. He enjoyed his honor only for the short period of four years, and upon his death

10. ELYAS DE PONTE-EPISCOPI, (otherwise ELYAS DE BISHOP'S-BRIDGE,) a Monk of Bec, succeeded, in 1262, by the same patronage^f.

11. HENRY, a Monk of St. Neot's, was instituted to the Priory on 1 Oct. 1264, upon the resignation of his predecessor Elyas de Ponte-Episcopi^f. It is not known how long he presided:

^d MSS. Harleian 6950. Extracts from Lincoln Registers. (The original Institution Roll for this period is mutilated).

^e Cartulary of St Neot's Priory; MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV.

^f Institution Rolls and Registers, Lincoln Cathedral.

12. WALTER DE BERNAY was, probably, the next Prior; but his institution does not appear. He resigned the Staff, however, to

13. THOMAS DE BENSENAL in 1275^f. How long he presided over the Monastery is uncertain: the period was, probably, short; for

14. JOHN DE BOSCO-REYNOLDI [Renhold? Bedfordshire] was, probably, Prior in 1285^g. He was certainly removed in 1292 from the Priory of St. Neot's to that of Cowyk near Exeter^h, a Cell also subject to the Abbey of Bec. On his resignation

15. JOHN DE SICCA VALLE, a Monk of the French Abbey, succeeded. He was instituted 19 July 1292^h. His death occurred ten years after.

16. WILLIAM DE BEC (otherwise, WILLIAM LETTERON), a Monk of Bec, received the vacant office, on 30 June 1302, on the recommendation of Gibbert, last Earl of Gloucester, to the Abbot of Bec^h. He having resigned,

17. GALFRID, also a Monk from the foreign House, was presented to the Priorate, on the nomination of Matilda Countess of Gloucester, 3 July 1317^h.

18. CLEMENT was Prior about 1327ⁱ.

19. PETER DE FALCO, a Monk of the Mother Abbey, was presented by the Bishop of Lincoln, and was instituted on 5 April 1341^h.

^g John is mentioned as Prior, 14 Edward (1285?): Cartulary, MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 27 b.

^h Institution Rolls and Registers, Lincoln Cathedral.

ⁱ Cartulary of St. Neot's Priory; MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV.

20. WILLIAM DE BELLO-MONTE, (*alias* WILLIAM BEAUMONT) a Monk of Bec, was instituted on 10 Aug. 1349^k. On his resignation the Norman Abbot again sent over one of his French Monks, viz.

21. GALFRID DE BRANVILLE, who was instituted at St. Neot's 30 April 1352^k. On his resignation, the Abbot and Monks of Bec again bestowed this office upon one of their Brethren,

22. PETER DE VILLARIBUS, who was instituted to the vacant Priorate on 29 Nov. 1353^l.

23. CHRISTIAN DE TROARNO, had the same honor conferred on him, upon 20 May 1364^l. At his death,

24. ROBERT DE GLANVILLE, a Monk of Bec, succeeded to the custody of the Priory (then seized by the Crown) on 10 Aug. 1372: the nomination was made by "William de Saint Vedast, Prior of Okeburn, and Proctor-General for the Abbot of Bec^l."

25. WILLIAM DE SAINT VEDAST, Prior of Okeburn, had the custody of the Priory of St. Neot (still in the King's hands), and was admitted by the Bishop of Lincoln, on 29 Dec. 1377^l. His temporalities were restored in 1399^m.

26. EDWARD SALISBURY was, probably, the next Prior. He was presented by King Henry IV.,

^k Institution Rolls and Registers, Lincoln Cathedral.

^l Institution Registers, Lincoln Cathedral.

^m Patent Rolls, Tower, 1 Hen. IV. p. 2. m. 13. [App. IX.].

and instituted on 27 Nov. 1405¹. He was the first Indigenous Prior since the Norman Conquest (see above, p. 84).

27. WILLIAM occurs Prior in 1422ⁿ;

28. JOHN EATON, in 1447ⁿ;

29. HENRY, from 1459, to 1461^o;

30. WILLIAM EYNESBURY, from 1464ⁿ to 1486^o;

31. THOMAS RAWNDS in 1490^o. The present beautiful parochial Church of St. Neot's appears to have been built in his time, and is said to have been finished, during the last year of his Priorate, in 1507^p. On his resignation he received an annual pension of 10*l.* from his successor (and probably his relative),

32. JOHN RAWNDS, who was instituted on 24 Nov. 1508^q. In the year 1512, while he still continued to preside over the Convent, he was instituted to the Vicarage of the new parochial Church of St. Neot's. He resigned his Priory to the King in 1539, and died in 1540.

ⁿ Cartulary of St. Neot's Priory, MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV.

^o Archives of Bene't College Cambridge (Receipts, given by the Priors of St. Neot's to the Master and Fellows of Bene't, for a portion of tithes in Granchester)—quoted in MSS. Brit. Mus. Cole, Vol. XXVI, p. 197. See above, p. 81.

^p See Chap. IV. § II.

^q Institution Registers, Lincoln Cathedral.

MSS. BELONGING TO THE PRIORY OF ST. NEOT.

I. ORIGINAL CHARTERS. Two Autographs have been preserved, viz.—

1. *Bull of Alexander III.*: (MSS. Brit. Mus. Harl. Charters XLIII. A. 21.)—"Given at Frascati, 29 August." The Seal is gone. [App. XIX.]

2. *Bull of Celestine III.*: (MSS. Brit. Mus. Cott. Charters, XII. 39.)—"Given at Rome at St. Peter's, 19 Nov. 1194." The Seal is gone. [App. XX.]

II. CARTULARIES. Only two Registers of this Priory are known to exist:—

1. *Cartulary of St. Neot's Priory*: (MSS. British Museum, Cotton, Faustina A. IV.)—This Register is a small Quarto, containing 301 pages on vellum, neatly written in a diminutive court-hand about the end of Century XIII.; many Deeds and Memoranda have been subsequently inserted down to 1466. The number of Deeds &c. is 654: there have been 736, of which 82 have perished, the MS. being mutilated at ff. 37, 80, and 91. It belonged to Sir Robert Cotton.

An abridgment of the titles of the Deeds, and some extracts, are given in the Appendix to this Volume [App. XV. and App. XVI.].

Some extracts exist, also, in the following Collections. (1.) MSS. Brit. Mus. Harleian, 2273, pp. 82—84 (with a pedigree of the Beauchamps, Barons of Eaton-Socon) made for Sir Robert Cotton. (2.) MSS. Brit. Mus. Sloane, 1301, Art. 132, (Ayscough's Catal.), seven pages taken "out of Mr. de St. George's Collections out of the Ledger of St. Neodes." (3.) MSS. Brit. Mus. Cole, Vol. XLV. pp. 187—192. (4.) MSS. in Wrest^r Library No. 9. ff. 110b.—113a., extracted about 1577. (5.) Fifteen Deeds are published in Dugdale's *Monasticon*, Vol. I., p. 369, Vol. II., p. 876; and (6.) four in Selden's *History of Tithes*, p. 334.

2. *Cartulary of the Sacristan of St. Neot's Priory*: (MSS. Stowe, Press III. No. 88.)—This Register is, also, a small Quarto, containing 92 pages on vellum, written in a bold black letter in 1286, William le Carun being then Sacristan. The Deeds (which refer exclusively to gifts for the service of

^r A *Cartulary* of St. Neot's has been supposed to exist at Wrest. The error originated with the "*Catalogus MSS. Angliæ*"; which, in 1697, noticed the "*Registrum Sci. Neothi*", among the MSS. of Anthony Earl of Kent, No. 31., transferred from the Cecil Library. Bp. Tanner [*Notitia Monastica*, edit. 1744], and his editor Nasmith [*Notitia Monastica*, edit. 1787], continued the mistake; having stated that the *Register* of St. Neot's was in the possession of the Duke of Kent. The same error appears with regard to supposed Cartularies of Colne and Evesham, as well as St. Neot's: all of which were noticed, in 1697, as *Registers*, MSS. at Wrest, No. 31.; but which are merely *Extracts*, now classed MSS. at Wrest No. 9.

the Conventual Chapel) are in number 95. Each of the leading titles is illuminated, though not very ornamentally: to each of the individual Deeds is prefixed a detailed title, in a red letter. Mr. Astle was the possessor in 1779; at his death it came to the Marquess of Buckingham. It is elegantly bound in crimson velvet: on each cover is an oval medallion, set in gold, on which is enameled the coat of ASTLE.

An Abridgment of the titles of the Deeds, and some extracts, are given in the Appendix to this Volume [App. XVII. and App. XVIII.].

III. MSS. IN THE CONVENTUAL LIBRARY*. Leland visited the Library of St. Neot's Priory in 1538: three MSS. were noticed by him:—

1. *MS. Life of Neot*.—"On searching the Library of this Monastery, I saw," says Leland^s, "an inelegant Tract on the Life of Neot; anonymous; written partly in prose, partly in verse; and exhibiting rather affected eloquence than

* The Precentor of the Priory had "a certain rent of 16s., in St. Neot's for purchasing and repairing the Books" [Exchequer Records on the Alien Priors, 18 Edw. II. See App. XXV.]

^s "Vidi ego, excussa hujus Monasterii Bibliotheca, duos non elegantes de Vita Neoti Libellos, sed suppresso in utroque Codice Authoris nomine. . . . alter, partim prosa partim etiam carmine scriptus, affectatam nescio quam eloquentiam potius quam Historiæ fidem integram exhibuit." Leland, De Scrip. Cap. CXIII.

historical fidelity.”—The identical MS. belonging to the Convent has probably perished: it appears, however, from Leland’s^t account, that it was the same Composition as the Bodleian Life described and quoted in the Appendix to this Volume [App. I. (II.); App. II. **3**; and App. III.].

2. *MS. Life of Neot*.—This Tract, Leland^u informs us, was also an “inelegant and anonymous” Composition “used in the Liturgical Services of the Conventual Chapel.” Mabillon^v supposes that it was written by a Monk of St. Neot’s. Probably the identical MS. inspected^u by Leland at the Priory no longer exists: from his extracts^w, however, it was evidently the same work as the Cottonian Life described in the Appendix to this Volume [App. I. (III.)].

3. *Chronicle of the Conventual Library of St. Neot’s*.—No other copy of this “Chronicle” has ever come to light, than that which was seen by Leland^x in the Library of St. Neot’s Priory; from which he has given some extracts^y. The MS. is now in the

^t Leland, Itin. Vol. IV. App. pp. 1. 2.

^u “Vidi ego &c. . . . unus in Liturgia ejusdem Templi in usu erat.” Leland, De Scrip. Cap. CXIII. (See note s.)

^v Mabillon, Acta Sanct. See IV. P. II. p. 323.

^w Leland, Coll. Vol. III. p. 11.

^x “Nos apud FANUM NEOTI in vetus Exemplar [*sc.* Libelli qui Asserii Annales in Epitomen redegit] nuper incidimus.” Leland, De Script. Cap. CXV.

^y Leland, Coll. Vol. II. pp. 189—191.

Library of Trinity College Cambridge², under the Class-mark R. 7. 28.; from which MS. it was published in 1691 by Gale (Script. XX. Vol. I. pp. 141—175). It appears to be a MS. of Century XIII.

This “Chronicle” contains short Annals of the leading events from the landing of the Romans in Britain till A. D. 914: it is chiefly occupied, however, with a long digression on the Life of Alfred, interspersed with some narratives respecting the intercourse of that King with his supposed relative Neot. It often agrees, verbatim, with the Life of Alfred by Asser Bishop of St. David’s; and in more than one instance it purloins from the Ecclesiastical History of Bede.

² It has been doubted whether the St. Neot’s MS. and the Trinity MS. be identical (Wise, De Scrip. Asserii, p. xxix.); the variation, however, which has been pointed out, is not only *ambiguous*, but rests upon a short account of the St. Neot’s MS. written by Leland so *loosely* that he himself has cancelled it with his pen (Autograph of Leland De Scrip. Cap. CXV., MSS. Bodl. Libr. 5105. p. 116).—It is remarkable that Leland should twice quote the “*Chronicle of St. Neot’s*” (once, De Scrip. Cap. CXV., for the death of Alfred; a second time, De Scrip. Cap. CXX., for an account of Ethelfleda Lady of the Mercians); yet only the former of these passages is in the Chronicle of St. Neot’s, the latter being in Asser De Reb. Gest. Ælfredi. It is perfectly clear, therefore, that he had confounded the two works. The error must have arisen from the circumstance that the Chronicle of St. Neot’s is such a servile imitation of Asser’s Life of Alfred, that the learned Leland himself has falsely ascribed it to the same Author (see note h, p. 104.).

Various opinions^a have been entertained with regard to the credit which this “Chronicle” deserves. Gale^b, Whitaker^c, and some other Writers, have maintained that it is the genuine “*Annals of Asser*,” a work referred to in Asser’s Life of Alfred, but which is supposed to have perished: the “*Annals of Asser*”, however, as quoted by Brompton^d, was a work decidedly distinct from the “Chronicle of St. Neot’s”. Probably this MS. was the composition of some Monk of St. Neot’s, who copied largely from Asser’s Life of Alfred, weaving into his “Chronicle” some favorite popular stories from the Lives of Neot.

This MS. has received various appellations. Leland at first professed himself ignorant of the Author, and simply entitled it “*Chronica Fani Neoti*.” Gale adopted the same title, which he says is on the MS. itself, though in a more recent hand^e; but the MS. exhibits no such designation, in its present state. Leland subsequently considered it as an “*Epitome of the Annals of Asser*”;

^a See Wise De Script. Asserii, pp. xxviii—xxx.; also, Nicholson’s English Hist. Library, p. 48.

^b Gale, Scrip. XX. Vol. I. Præf.

^c Whitaker’s Life of Neot, pp. 216—230.

^d Brompton, in Twysden Hist. Ang. Scrip. X. p. 753.

^e Leland De Script. Cap. CXVII.

^f Gale, Scrip. XX. Vol. I. Præf. “Lelandus appellavit *Chronicon Sancti Neoti*, quia ibi in manus ejus incidit. Habent sane eum titulum Membranæ, sed manu recentiori.”

^g Leland, De Script. Cap. CXV.

he finally concluded that it was an original Composition, and adopted the title "*Asserii Annales*^h." Wise has named it "*Pseudo-Asserius*ⁱ." The first title^k is preferable; since it leaves the controversy untouched, simply affirming that it was originally found in the Priory of St. Neot.

^h Leland, Coll. Vol. II. p. 189 (*his own interlineation in the Autograph preserved in the Bodleian Library*).

ⁱ Wise De Script. Asserii, pp. xxviii—xxx.

^k It has been referred to in this Volume (pp. 26, 40, 41.) under the title, *Chronicle of the Conventual Library of St. Neot's*.

* * * The following Records (besides those quoted in other parts of this Volume) refer to the Priory of St. Neot:—

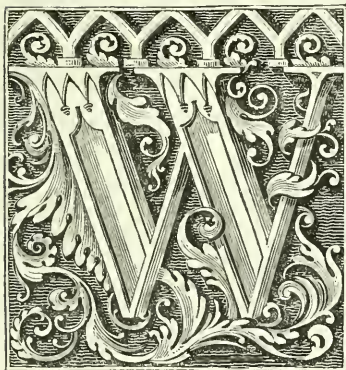
Roll Quo War. Tower, 15 Edw. I. roll 6.
 Do..... 27 Edw. I. roll 28.
 Hundred Roll, Tower, .. 7 Edw. I. n. 5. m. 2, 3.
 Escheats, Tower,..... 25 Edw. I. n. 51.
 Do..... 32 Edw. III. p. 2. n. 38.
 Do.. 46 Edw. III. n. 62.
 Patent Rolls, Tower, .. 34 Edw. I. m. 17.
 Do..... 5 Edw. II. p. 1. m. 15.
 Do..... 6 Edw. II. p. 1. m. 7.
 Do..... 6 Edw. III. p. 1. m. 13.
 Do..... 16 Hen. VI. p. 2. m. 23.
 Charter Rolls, Tower, .. 19 Hen. III. m. 15.
 Close Rolls, Tower, 49 Edw. III. m. 31.
 Inquis. Ad quod Damnum, 4 Edw. II. m. 44.
 Pleas, Chapter House, .. 10 John, Mic. roll 12.
 Orig. Rolls, Exchequer.. 2 Hen. V. Mic. roll 11.

CHAPTER III.

Topographical Account of Eynesbury.

§. I.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PARISH.



WHEN the Norman Survey was taken (and, probably, for about a Century after the Conquest) the name EYNESBURY was applied, indiscriminately, to the lands now included in the *two* parishes of Eynesbury and of St.

Neot's. In the following Chapter, the name will be considered as limited, in its reference, by the bounds of the present parish.

EYNESBURY consists of two separate portions of land which surround the parish of St. Neot's on the S. and the E.: this irregularity of shape has originated from the elimination of the latter parish.—The first-mentioned portion is bounded, on

the N. by a small stream, called Hen-Brook, which separates it from St. Neot's; on the W. by the Ouse, which parts it from Eaton Socon; on the S. by Little Barford; and on the E. by a Roman Road, which runs between this parish and Abbotsley.—The other portion is bounded, on the N. by Toseland; on the W. by St. Neot's (the Roman Road being the division); on the S. by Hen-Brook, which flows between this parish and Abbotsley; and on the E. by Croxton.

The parish of Eynesbury contains about 2481 acres; its area is, consequently, rather less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ square miles. It was enclosed by Act of Parliament in 1797.

By the Census taken in 1811, the population then consisted of 706 persons, 330 males and 376 females; the number of families being 149, and of inhabited houses 131.

§ II.

PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE VILLAGE, &c.

THE probability that the village of Eynesbury was once occupied as a Roman Defence, has already been stated at large (Chap. I.). Respecting its History in this early period till the Norman Conquest, it may be expedient to recapitulate:—

1. that the original Saxon name of this spot was (possibly) BURY, in allusion to the military Work on the Ouse;—
2. that in the middle of Century VIII., this name was associated with another, being changed to ERNULPH'S-BURY, in commemoration of some religious person called Ernulph, who selected this place for his abode. The latter was, certainly, its Norman^a appellation: it was afterwards gradually corrupted to EYNESBURY.



LOCAL COINS.

The following Tokens were struck, for this village, in the reign of Charles II.

1. A brass coin :

Obverse. ROBERT BVLL OF encircling
A Horse's Head bridled.

Reverse. EANSBERY 1667 encircling
HIS HALFEPENY

^a Domesday Survey, Vol. II. f. 206 b. [Appendix XXI.]

2. A brass coin, mentioned by Snelling ("View of the Coinage of England," p. 32.):

Obverse. ANDREW SELBY OF 1668
encircling

A Fleur-de-lis.

Reverse. EYNSBVREY AND POTEN
encircling
HIS HALFPENY

3. A coin, described in a MS. Catalogue belonging to Mr. Young a medalist in London:

Obverse. HENERY ASHLEY encircling

A
HA

Reverse. IN EYNSBURY 1668

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH.

The Church of this village is mentioned in the Conqueror's Survey^b. The present Edifice, dedicated to St. Mary, still exhibits traces of Norman architecture: the pillars are in that style; those in the N. aisle (the flowery capitals of which are by no means inelegant) appear more antient than the others. There are no other decided remains of the Norman Church; the walls have been rebuilt, in a neat but humble style, at a much later period. A lozenge or doubly zig-zag moulding, in the great arch between the nave and the chan-

^b Domesday, Vol. II. f. 206 b. [App. XXI.].

cel, though much defaced by the chisel, shews that this Church has once been chastely ornamented. The antient steeple, having been struck by lightning, fell down. It was rebuilt in the reign of James II.: the following inscription occurs on the S. side ;—

IOHN LVKE

1687

HENREY ASHLEY
THOMAS RVTLAND
CHṼCHWARDNES

the tower, which was then constructed, though neat, is of trifling altitude and altogether devoid of ornament: it stands, detached, on the S. side of the chancel.

No stained glass, of any antiquity, now remains. A few characters (about two inches in depth) were traced^c in 1780 by Rev. G. Ashby of St. John's Col-



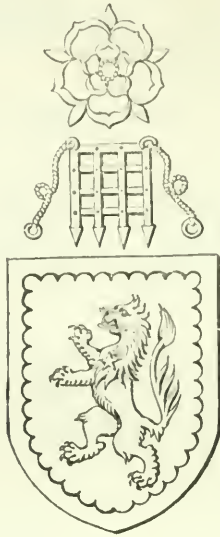
lege^d: whether they are to be considered as a complete or a broken legend^e, does not appear.

^c It can scarcely be doubted that the *third* letter was imperfect, and had been originally similar to the *sixth*, a common and ornamental variety of the character (e).

^d MSS. Brit. Mus. Cole, Vol. XXX. p. 95.

^e It was, possibly, *ꝥ. n. elleeson* for *Iesu nazaræ cleeson*: but Mr. Cole conceives that the letters were *ꝥ. n. ellr*.

Two coats of Arms, beautifully designed and stained, are preserved in a grotto belonging to the Rectory:—the bearing is, *Gules, within a*



Bordure engrailed a Lion rampant Argent, on his shoulder a Mullet [Gules]; for GREY, Bishop of Lincoln^f. The shields are supported by Angels whose heads support a *Cross botonée*. Above one of the shields is, *A Portcullis Or* beneath *A Rose Gules seeded Or*. These, possibly, were recovered from the ruins of the chancel, which was demolished by the fall of the steeple. They must have been executed in 1430-5.

^f The Coat of Grey was very frequent in the Huntingdonshire Churches. It was noticed at Buckden, Colne, Kimbolton, &c. by the Heralds, during the Visitation of 1684

A slab or stone coffin, level with the pavement and close to the N. wall of the chancel, is said (in a tradition recorded by Sir Robert Cotton^g) to cover the remains of Saher de Quinci, Lord of the manor of Eynesbury. It bears no inscription. If the tradition mentioned by Sir Robert Cotton be correct, this coffin is probably of the age of Richard I., and certainly not more recent than the reign of King John^h.

In the middle of the S. aisle is a slab of grey marble which has formerly been inscribed with Lombardic characters, and which, therefore, cannot be of later date than about the middle of Century XIV. The inscription round the verge is nearly effaced: the letters have been originally cast in brass; the sockets of some few alone remain:

*Rich*ARD : de : gist : ici : : DE :

SA : ALME : V. RA merCI✠

This has probably been the tomb-stone of some Rector of Eynesbury: it may, in that case, commemorate either RICHARD DE CLIFFORD who died in 1296, or RICHARD DE KESTON in 1311.

The floor has contained many other brasses; of which not a vestige remains, with the exception of a fragment (not more antient than the early

^g MSS. Brit. Mus. Lansdowne 921. (Cotton and Astry Notes on Hunts.).

^h See below, § IV. of this Chapter, p. 127.

part of the reign of Elizabeth¹) which records nothing more than the name of the deceased,

VALENTYNE FYNCH.

On the N. side of the chancel is an elegant mural monument, of white marble, in the form of an escutcheon, in memory of JOHN TURNER, Rector of this Church :—

JOHANNES TURNER

S. T. B.

Collegii Magd. Cantab. olim Socius,

Post Ministerium hujus Ecclesiæ

Quinquaginta sex annos summa cum fide peractum,

Animam Deo reddidit quinto die AUGUSTI Anno Dni. 1705, Ætatis

Suæ 84. Cujus reliquias, in Spem beatæ Resurrectionis,

Sub hoc Marmore locandas curavere Filii ejus

EDVARDUS, JOHANNES, SAMUEL, et

Unica Filia MARIA nupta IOSEPHO

CAME Londinensi,

Doctrinæ ac vitæ invigilans, exempla reliquit

Pastoris studiis moribus apta gregis.

At the head of the tablet are the Arms: *Ermines, on a Cross quarter-pierced Argent 4 Millrines Sable*; for TURNER.

Adjacent to this is a similar tablet for his son EDWARD TURNER Rector of Eynesbury :—

¹ Probably between the years 1560-64 (for which period there is an hiatus in the parochial Register of Eynesbury): Valentine Finch was living about 5 Ed. VI. as appears from the Baptism of one of his children in that year.

Candoris, Benignitatis,
 Doctrinæ, Virtutis, si quæris
 Exemplar, EDVARDUM TURNER (nuper
 Hujus Ecclesiæ Rect.) Doctrina omni
 Præcipue Christiana optime instauratum habes.
 Cui, omnibus se comitem reddere, pauperibus subve-
 nire, voluptati erat; cui, cum verbo tum proprio
 Exemplo Gregem ad virtutis amabiles salutiferas
 Etsi fere impervias semitas, deducere summa fuit cura:
 Qua cura emaciato deniq; corpore, lubens placide in
 Domino obdormivit, Justorum expectans Resurrecti-
 onem, Junij Die 2^{do}. Anno Do^m. 1714, Ætat. 57.

Cætera vis lector? narrabit sera nepotum
 Fama, hujus pietas est imitanda tibi.

Sacræ per dilecti Fratris memoriæ
 Hoc monumentū dicāt mæstissima
 MARIA CAME.

Non nisi per mortem patet iter ad astra.

Sepulchro eodem cineres reservantur
 Venerabiles MARIE piæ Matris atq;
 JOHANNIS^k dilectissimi Fratris
 EDVARDI TURNERI,
 Qui e vita migraverunt
 Illa Octob. die 2^{do}. 1708
 (Viz.) Ille Februar. 22^{do}. 1710.

This monument, also, displays the Achievement
 of TURNER; together with the Crest, *A Lion
 passant Argent, in his paw a Mill-rine Sable.*

^k He was senior Fellow and Vice-Provost of King's College.
 In 1710-1, while senior Proctor, he died of the small-pox.—
 MSS. Brit. Mus. Cole, Vol. XXX. p. 97.

The parochial Registers commence in 30 Henry VIII. (1538)¹. The Vestry Records in 1602.

¹ " Maryagys in the Parryche of Aynesbery frome Myckehelmas last past the xxx yere of the Rayne of Oure Sofferand Lorde Kyng Harry the viijth here folloythe:"

" Chylderne Kyrsenyd in the xxxvij yere of ovre Souferande Lorde Kyng Harre the viijth:"

" Byrryalls in the Paryche of Aynsebery frome Myckehelmas laste paste the xxx yere of the Rayne of Oure Sofferande Lorde Kyng Harry the viiith here folloyth."

" Mvñe gatheryd at ovre Soufferade Lorde the Kynges covmāde for the deff. . . ce of the Grette Towrke in hys Rayne the xxxiiij yere. The fyrste Sondag of Augvste the v day of that monyth the yere of ovre Lorde God xvth xliij gatherd by the Chyrche Wardyns in the pryche Chyrch :

Fyrst of the Cvrat i^d.

John Bovrton. ij^d.

&c. &c."

The following curious licence occurs, granted about 1568:—
 " Whereas by a Statute, made in y^e v yeaere of y^e Quene's Maiestyes Raygne y^t now is, called y^e Statute of Navygacyon, yt is graunted y^t Persons notoryously sycke, maye be lycensed by the Parson of y^e Paryshe where y^e Partyes dwell, to enjoy the benefyt of eatinge of Fleshe, on y^e daies prohybyted, by y^e sayed Statute, for y^e recoverynge of theyr health (yf yt pleasith God); Let yt be knowne to y^e seere hereof that Jhon Burton of y^e Paryshe of Eynesburye in y^e Countye of Huntington, being verye syke, ys lycensyd to eate Fleshe for y^e tyme of his sycknes, soo y^t he, enjoyeinge y^e benefytt of y^e lycence his sycknes contynewinge viij dayes, do cause y^e same to be regestered into y^e Regester Booke in y^e same Paryshe Accordinge to y^e tenor of y^e Statute in y^t behalf, and this lycence no longer to indure, then his sycknes doth laste: By me *Wyllyam Samuell* Parson of Eynesburye."—The Act is 5 Eliz. Cap. 5. § 14—25. " For increase of provision of Fish by the more usual eating thereof,

The Rectory was estimated at 17*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* in the Taxation of Pope Nicholas 1291 (see *Nonæ Roll*); it stands at 32*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* in the King's Books.

RECTORS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
EYNESBURY.

1. GILBERT was "Presbyter" of the Church of Eynesbury, in the time of the Conqueror's Survey, 1086^m.

2. WALEFRID was "Parson" in the reign of William Rufus, or early in the reign of Henry I.ⁿ No Incumbent occurs for nearly a Century. The next whose name is recorded is

3. ALBINⁿ.

4. HENRY son of Albinⁿ?

5. GILBERT was Rector in the year 1218°. It should appear that at least as early as 1222 Vicarial tithes had been set apart from the Rectorial; for, in that year ROBERT was presented to the "Vicarage" by Gilbert "Rector of Eynesbury^p."

6. JOHN DE LATTON was instituted to this Rectory 7 Oct. 1223, having been presented by Margaret Countess of Winchester, widow of Saher de Quinci: the "perpetual Vicarage" was reserved

as well as in sparing and increase of Flesh-victual, &c.", it was enacted that every Wednesday should be a *Fish-Day*.

^m Domesday, Vol. II. p. 206 b. [App. XXI.].

ⁿ Cartulary of St. Neot's, MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 68 a.

^o Cartulary of St. Neot's, MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 59 a.

^p Archives of Linc. Cathed. (Institution Rolls and Registers).

to ROBERT; and the "tithe of corn" to the Convent of St. Neot^p.

7. RICHARD DE CLIFFORD occurs at the close of Century XIII.; the date of his institution does not appear. At his death,

8. HUGH DE ENOFIELD was presented by Eleanor Countess of Derby, and was instituted 18 June 1296. There was a suit about this presentation; Thomas 2d Lord Berkeley and Joanna his wife, and John Comyn Earl of Boglehan, on the one part, having claimed the Advowson against Eleanor de Ferrers: the right was decided in favor of the latter^p. (See p. 128. note i.).

9. RICHARD DE KESTON succeeded to the Rectory, 21 July 1311, on the death of Hugh de Enofield; having been presented by Eleanor de Ferrers, Countess of Derby^p. He died soon after his institution, and

10. JOHN DE WALDENE was promoted to the Living of Eynesbury in 1311, by the same patronage^q. At his death

11. THOMAS DE LENNE [*alias* DE LONNE] was instituted to this Rectory 2 April 1324, on the presentation of King Edward II.^p, the patronage having fallen to the Crown during the wardship of Robert Lord Ferrers of Chartley.

12. THOMAS DE ABYNGDON became the next Rector, May 1347, on the resignation of Thomas de Lonne^q. His death occurred one year and a

^q Archives of Linc. Cathed. (Institution Registers).

half after his promotion, and the Living of Eynesbury was given to

13. PETER DE WOVERE [*alias* DE OUER, or OVER] 18 Dec. 1349, by Robert Lord Ferrers^a 2d Baron of Chartley.

14. RICHARD LE PARKER was promoted 11 Sep. 1361; presented by Joanna widow of Robert Ferrers, on the death of Peter de Ouer^a.

15. GILBERT NEEL succeeded Parker, on his resignation, 23 Dec. 1368; having been presented by John Lord Ferrers^a 3d Baron of Chartley. He resigned, and

16. THOMAS SWATEMAN [*alias* SWATMAN] DE PENCRITH was instituted 19 Dec. 1372, on the presentation of Joanna Countess Ferrers^a [de Groby?]. He exchanged the Living of Eynesbury for that of Yelling, Huntingdonshire, with

17. SIMON DE SWANESEYE [*alias* SIMON GOKY?], on 12 Dec. 1373; the presentation having been again exercised by Joanna Countess de Ferrers^a.

18. JOHN GATE was the next Incumbent, instituted 11 July 1381: he was presented on the death of Simon Goky, by King Richard II.^a

19. WILLIAM HETH in all probability succeeded; but his appointment is not registered.

20. HENRY DRAYTON was promoted to this Rectory 18 May 1414; having been presented by Edmund Lord Ferrers 5th Baron of Chartley, on the resignation of William Heth^a. He exchanged Eynesbury for Cheadle, Staffordshire, with

21. WILLIAM PIRTON, 30 Jan. 1415, who was

presented by the same patron^r. Pirton resigned, and was succeeded by

22. NICHOLAS SHELLY, in 1418; Richard Norman and John Brotton having been the patrons, *pro hac vice*^r. At his death

23. JOHN WIGHT was nominated by Edmund Lord Ferrers, and was inducted 20 Feb. 1434^r.

24. HUGH TYLER: the period of his death, alone, has been recorded, in the registry of his successor,

25. WILLIAM FOREST, whose institution appears on 3 July 1472; the right of presentation having been exercised by Sir Walter Devereux^r who became entitled to the Advowson of Eynesbury, by his marriage with Ann de Ferrers, the daughter and sole heiress of the 6th Baron of Chartley.

26. JOHN BROMWICHE.

27. HUGH GIBSON, LL.B. was instituted 14 July 1523; presented by Walter Devereux Lord Ferrers of Chartley, on the resignation of John Bromwiche^r.

28. CHRISTOPHER BARDSEY discharged the First-Fruits of the Rectory of Eynesbury 7 May 1554^s.

29. WILLIAM SAMUEL, paid his First-Fruits, 20 Nov. 1559^s:—

30. RICHARD JONES, 14 April 1581^s:—

31. THOMAS WILSON, 27 April 1586^s; he was buried at Eynesbury on 28 Feb. 1605^t.

^r Archives of Linc. Cathed. (Institution Registers).

^s First-Fruits' Registers.

^t Eynesbury parochial Registers.

32. HENRY LEE, M. A. was instituted (on the death of Thomas Wilson) 19 March 1605; Sir Richard Dyer being then the true patron of the Rectory^u.

33. EDMUND MARMION discharged the First-Fruits of this Living on 3 Jan. 1615^v: he occurs Rector in 1643^w.

34. JOHN TURNER, B. D. succeeded (in 1649?). His ancestors were of Hemel Hemsted, Hertfordshire^x. He was formerly Fellow of Magdalen College Cambridge. His epitaph in Eynesbury chancel (See p. 112) records his death on 5 Aug. 1705. He had, however, resigned his Living, sixteen years previously, to his son

35. EDWARD TURNER, B. D., whose institution occurs 24 Dec. 1689, on the presentation of Edward Earl of Sandwich^u. He died on 2 June 1714, as appears by his Epitaph in Eynesbury chancel (See p. 113.).

36. THOMAS FAIRFAX, instituted 28 Oct. 1714, was presented by Edward Earl of Sandwich^u. He was Prebend of Bedford Minor in the Cathedral Church of Lincoln. He was buried in the chancel, without an inscription^y.

^u Institution Registers at Buckden.

^v First-Fruits' Registers.

^w Eynesbury Vestry-Records.

^x MSS. Coll. at Arms, K. 7. (Visit. Hunts. 1684.)

^y MSS. Brit. Mus. Cole, Vol. XXX. pp. 95—99; where may be seen many particulars respecting the later Rectors of Eynesbury.

37. RICHARD LYNE, M. A., instituted 27 Dec. 1750, presented by the Earl of Sandwich^z. Mr. Lyne had been Fellow of Eton College, and Chaplain to King George II.: he was present at the making of the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, with his patron the Earl of Sandwich^y. After his death the Living lapsed; and

38. WILLIAM COLE, presented by the Bishop of Lincoln, was inducted 30 May 1768^z. Mr. Cole was Prebend of Welton Beckhall, in the Church of Lincoln. He died in 1808, and was buried in Eynesbury chancel, where a neat marble tablet has been erected to his memory.

39. WILLIAM PALMER, M. A., was instituted 22 June 1808; having been presented by his father, William Palmer of Brampton Esq., the patron *pro hac vice*. On 5 Feb. 1819 Mr. Palmer was presented to the Prebendal Stall of Welton Painshall in the Cathedral Church of Lincoln.

^z Institution Registers at Buckden.

§ III.

HAMLETS IN THE PARISH OF EYNESBURY.

I. WEALD^a, containing several cottages. A Chapel was founded here, about the time of the Conquest, with a provision for services to be performed twice in the week by Monks from the Priory of St. Neot (see p. 75.): the site of this Edifice is still to be traced in a close called ‘Chapel Field’.

II. CALDECOT^b, now only a manor-farm; there has formerly been a moated mansion. The adjoining field presents traces of many other dwellings.

III. LAN’S BURY, otherwise LAUCELYN’S BURY. From the Hundred Roll, and other antient Records, it is certain that a hamlet has once existed here, though it has now disappeared. There are traces of a moated residence; which, probably, was the mansion of the Launcelyn family, whose name occurs in this parish in the reign^c of Edward I. (1279).

IV. PUTTOCK’S-HARDWICK^d. This hamlet was, in 1204, called UPPER HARDWICK^e: in 1279 it had

^a Weald, a *Wild*, or *Wold*.

^b Calb-Lote, The *Cold-Cot*.

^c MSS. Brit. Mus. Lansdowne 921. (Cotton and Astry Notes on Hunts).—Hund. Roll, 7 Edw. I. Com’ Hunt’ n. 5. m. 3.

^d þeapd-pic, The *Shepherd’s village*.

^e Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 89 a. [App. XVI. G.].

the name of SAHER'S-HARDWICK^f, from Saher de Quinci, once Lord of the manor: the present name was in use at least as early as the beginning of Century XIV^g. It is now only a manor-farm, surrounded by a considerable moat. Over a chimney-piece (the remains of a more antient dwelling) are the Royal Arms and Crest (as emblazoned from the reign of James I. to that of James II., inclusive) in plaster. On each side is a figure holding a Crown over a Harp; from the neck of each is suspended a shield, the Bearing on which (probably that of some Lord of the manor) is defaced.

In this hamlet was a Free-Chapel or Chantry, founded early in Century XII. by the family De Trumpington^h, and dedicated to St. Thomas the Martyr. It was originally endowed with ten marks of annual rent in Todenham and Farndon for the support of two Chaplains: it appears, however, to have been under the care of only one "Rector or Administrator."

^f Hundred Roll, Tower, 7 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' n. 5. m. 3.

^g Institution Registers, Lincoln Cathedral.

^h "In p'd'ca hameletta de HERDEWIK est quedam lib'a Capella que fundata est a p'decessorib' Rog'i de Trumpington' qⁱ assignarūt in TODENHAM & in FARNDON' x marc' annui reddit' ad sustentacōm' duor' capell'or' qⁱ p'petuo divina celebrarēt in ead'm." Hundred Roll, Tower, 7 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' n. 5. m. 3.

RECTORS, OR ADMINISTRATORS, OF THE FREE-CHAPEL,
OR CHANTRY, OF ST. THOMAS THE MARTYR, AT PUT-
TOCK'S-HARDWICK, IN THE PARISH OF EYNESBURY.

1. JOHN was probably the first Administrator, and was nominated by Gilbert Rector of Eynesbury in 1222ⁱ.

2. HENRY DE HERDEWIK occurs 1279^k?

3. WALTER DE LINTON, at the beginning of Century XIV.ⁱ.

4. JOHN DE MORDON, 1314, presented by Sir Egidius de Trumpington, on the death of Walter de Lintonⁱ.

5. THOMAS DE HEO [*alias* DE HO] 19 Nov. 1319, by the same patron, on the resignation of John de Mordonⁱ.

6. WILLIAM DE BALBY [*alias* BALEBY] 1324, by the same patron, on the resignation of Thomas de Hoⁱ.

7. NICHOLAS DE REPTON, 1328, by the same patron, on the resignation of William de Balebyⁱ.

8. JOHN DE WATER NEWTON, 1331, presented by the Bishop of Lincoln, on the death of Nicholas de Reptonⁱ.

9. ROGER DE KEILMORTH [Colmworth?] 12 Feb.

ⁱ Archives of Linc. Cathed. (Institution Rolls and Registers). The dates are those of the Institutions.

^k "HENR' DE HERDEWIK Capell's tenet de p'd'ca Comitissa xxij. acr. . . ." Hundred Roll, Com' Hunt', 7 Edw. 1. n. 5. m. 3.

1337, by the presentation of Isabella de Trumpington¹.

10. JAMES DE BRAY, 3 Feb. 1340, presented by Henry Lord Ferrers of Groby, on the resignation of Roger¹.

11. ROBERT WARYN DE KEMPSTONE, 22 Nov. 1357, presented by Sir Roger de Trumpington, on the resignation of James de Bray¹. The same patron gave this Free-Chapel to

12. HENRY BOLE DE PUTTOKHERDEWYK, 4 May 1361, on the resignation of Robert¹.

13. JOHN THROBERE, 16 Oct. 1405, presented by the Feoffers of Sir Roger de Trumpington, on the resignation of Henry Bole¹.

14. JOHN RAM, 5 July 1407, presented by Sir Roger de Trumpington, on the resignation of John Throber¹.

15. JOHN SMYTH, 20 Feb. 1409, on the resignation of Ram¹.

16. JOHN FELICE DE MILDENHALE, was Administrator 28 Sep. 1410¹. He was succeeded by

17. ROBERT SHERMAN. At his resignation,

18. THOMAS BOSC, 12 Sep. 1420, was presented by Margaret de Trumpington¹.

19. RICHARD TWENGs was probably the next Rector; for his successor

20. ROBERT BENET was instituted, 4 June 1432 having been presented by Nicholas Caldecote and John Goldington¹.

¹ Archives of Linc. Cathed. (Institution Registers).

21. JOHN ADAM, 15 May 1451, on the resignation of Robert Benet; patron, Sir Walter de Trumpington^m.

22. WILLIAM TAYLARD, LL.D. At his resignation, he was succeeded by

23. HUGH GARNET, 4 Dec. 1504, presented by Sir Edmund Lucy, in right of Eleanor his wife, heiress of Sir Walter de Trumpington^m. At his death,

24. JOHN EYAR [*alias* AYER] was instituted 9 May 1533, presented by Francis Pigott de Stretton Bedfordshire, and Eleanor daughter and heiress of John Enderby^m. The same patrons presented the three remaining Rectors,—

25. ROBERT HAWKESWELL, 27 Sep. 1542, on the death of John Ayer^m;—

26. THOMAS DICONSON, B. D., 8 May 1545, on the death of Robert Hawkeswell^m;—

27. THOMAS MERELL, 16 Aug. 1546, on the death of Thomas Diconson^m.

This Free-Chapel or Chantry appears to have been soon after abolished, and a pension allowed to the last Incumbent during his life. The precise year in which it was dissolved is uncertain: it was, however, before 1554; for in that year a pension of 3*l*. was due to Thomas Marrellⁿ (*alias* Merell^m).

^m Archives of Linc. Cathed. (Institution Registers).

ⁿ Original Pension Roll in Brit. Mus. [App. XIV.].

§ IV.

HISTORY AND DESCENT OF PROPERTY.

THIS parish includes the following MANORS:—
 I. The manor of Eynesbury, *now* comprehending only 1. Eynesbury-Ferrer's, 2. Eynesbury-Berkeley's, 3. Eynesbury-Cressener's, and 4. Eynesbury-Buckley's, (all at present united); II. the Rectory manor; III. Puttock's-Hardwick; and IV. Caldecot.

These manors appear, however, to have been *all* included, in the great Norman Survey, under the general name of EINVLVESBERIE. In the time of Edward the Confessor, the whole manor was worth 20*l.*^a. In 1086, it belonged to Judith Countess of Huntingdon, niece to William the Conqueror. She had, in demesne, 4 carucates, 34 villeins, and 8 bordars possessed of 28 ploughs: her demesne was valued at 14*l.* 12*s.* The Survey notices 2 mills (valued at 1*l.* 12*s.*) and 60 acres of wood-pasture; also a certain sheepfold containing 662 sheep, and 60 acres of meadow (given by the Countess to St. Helena^b).

About the time of William Rufus, the manor of Eynesbury passed to Simon de St. Liz first Earl of Huntingdon, by his marriage with Ma-

^a Domesday, Vol. II. f. 206 b. [Appen. XXI. *a.*].

^b Probably to the Priory of Elstow (Elen-stow) Beds., founded by the Countess, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Helena.

tilda daughter of the Countess Judith. By a second marriage, she brought this seignory to David King of Scots. It is probable that (about the reign of Richard I.) Saher de Quinci^c held this manor, as of the honor of Huntingdon, of the King of Scotland. His son, Saher de Quinci^d, was undoubtedly possessed of this manor in 1204^e.

I. The manor of EYNESBURY, properly so called (viz. that which *now* includes only the four united manors of E. Ferrers, Berkeley's, Cressener's, and Buckley's) is probably that part of the property of Saher de Quinci which descended to his son Roger Earl of Winchester. Roger de Quinci died, 1263, seized of a Knight's-fee in Eynesbury^f; held as of the honor of Huntingdon; having left no male issue, his property was divided among his three daughters and co-heiresses, Margaret de Ferrers, Elena la Zouch, and Elizabeth de Boghan, who had livery of their respective purparties in 1277^g. The manor of Eynesbury

^c Dugdale [Baronage, Vol. I. p. 686.] says that he married Matilda de St. Liz: if so, the manor of Eynesbury was, probably, her marriage portion. No such marriage, however, appears in the pedigree of St. Liz, even as given by Dugdale himself.

^d One of the Barons who signed Magna Charta, "whom (says Matthew Paris) King John *hated worse than viper's blood*."

^e Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 89 a. [App. XVI. G.].

^f Esch. Tower, 54 Hen. III. n. 13., and 55 Hen. III. n. 36.

^g MSS. Cott. Nero D. X. 196 a. . . . 200 b. "Participacio Feod' milit' de Rog' QUINCI quond' Com̃ Wintoñ, facta apud

was divided between the two former. Margaret de Ferrers, Countess of Derby, inherited two-thirds of the fee held, as of the honor of Huntingdon, in capite from the Lady Devorgail de Bayliol, who held from the King of Scotland, he holding from the King of England^b: she was also possessed of the Advowsonⁱ of the Rectory, and of the fishery of the Ouse from Barford to Holbek^h. Elena la Zouche of Ashby held the remaining one-third of the same fee^h. The two sisters, had, also, privilege of free-warren on their demesne lands in Eynesbury^k.

1. The share of Margaret de Ferrers, [from whom the manor of EYNESBURY FERRERS derived its name] descended in the line of the Barons

STĒ NEOD', in vigilia S'te Trinitatis, anno grē Millmō CC Septuagessio VII^o, inter coheredes eiusdĒ hereditatis; s. p' Mag'rĒm JoheĒm de Twyford, DnĒm Willm de Caue, et Will' de Faucūberg', attornat' Margarete de Ferrers Comiē Derby; p' F'rēm Galfrid de Hauso, Willm de Kauston, et Johēm Bonany, attornat' Elene de Zowche; et DnĒm Radm de Casteles, et DnĒm Thomā de Kynres, et DnĒm Robert' de Blok, attornat' Alex' Com de Boghū et Elizabeth uxor' eius."

^b Hundred Roll, Tower, 7 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' n. 5. m. 3.

ⁱ The Advowson is stated, in the Hund. Roll, to belong to Margaret; and, in the same Roll, to be shared between Margaret and Elena. In MSS. Cotton, Nero D. X. the Advowson is said to belong to the third sister, Elizabeth; "Advocacio Ecclie de Eynesbyry cadit in p'tē Com' de Boughm iuxta Sanctū Neodū et valet per annū līi^a. x^d." In 1296 there was a suit between these parties, to determine the right of presentation: see above, p. 116.

^k Hundred Roll, 7 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' n. 5. m. 1.

Ferrers of Chartley¹. In 1449, William Lord Ferrers, 6th Baron of Chartley, died seized of two parts of the manor of Eynesbury and of the Advowson of the Church^m; which passed, by the marriage of Ann his daughter and sole heiress, to Walter Devereux Esq., who, in right of his wife, was called to Parliament as Lord Ferrers of Chartley. It was in the possession of the Ferrers family in 1548ⁿ, and probably till the close of that Century, when this and some other manors hereafter specified were united and belonged to the Dyers^o.

The remaining third of the Knight's-fee of Roger de Quinci descended, through his second daughter and coheiress Elena la Zouch, to the Zouches Barons of Ashby, (and to collateral branches of that family?). Oliver le Zouch claimed, in 1285, view of free-pledge, waif, and privilege of free-warren in Eynesbury, by the warrant of feoffment of Elena la Zouch^p. In 1313 Alan Lord Zouch of Ashby died seized of one-sixth of a Knight's-fee in Eynesbury^q. This part of the fee was certainly in the Zouch family as late as 1349, when it belonged to John le Zouch^r. It

¹ Escheats, Tower, 49 Edw. III. n. 56. and 14 Hen. VI.

^m Escheats, 28 Hen. VI. n. 22.

ⁿ Escheats, 2 Edw. VI.

^o See below, p. 131.

^p Roll Quo War., Chapter House, 14 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' m. 4.

^q Escheats, Tower, 7 Edw. II. n. 36.

^r Escheats, Tower, 23 Edw. III. n. 48.

has not been traced farther in that family; it may be conjectured, with great probability, that it passed to Maurice Berkeley Esq., who, about that time, married Eva daughter of William le Zouch of Harringworth, and who in right of his mother was possessed of another part of the manor of Eynesbury—viz.

2. EYNESBURY-BERKELEY'S. This was part of the fee of Roger de Quinci, which was probably first made a distinct manor when it was given to Thomas second Lord Berkeley, as the marriage portion of his wife, Joan daughter of William de Ferrers Earl of Derby and Margaret his wife^s. At the Inquisition for the Hundred Roll (1279) it was held, in capite, of Margaret de Ferrers, by Thomas de Berkle^t, by homage and the service of one-fourth of a Knight's-fee. In 1285 the same Thomas de Berkle claimed view of free-pledge and privilege of free-warren in Eynesbury^v: in 1315 he was Lord of this manor^w, and he died seized of it in 1321^w. The same family was possessed of it in the reign of Henry VII.^x; and in 1538 John Berkeley Esq. died seized of Weald

^s Autograph at Berkeley, quoted by Dugdale, Baronage, Vol. I. p. 355.

^t Hundred Roll, Tower, 7 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' n. 5. m. 3. —MSS. Cotton Nero D. X.

^v Roll. Quo War. Chapter House, 14 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' m. 1.

^w Nom. Vill. 9 Edw. II., British Museum.

^x MSS. Lansd. 921. (Cotton and Astry Notes on Hunts).

^y Escheats, 5 and 17 Hen. VII.

and of the manor of Eynesbury, held of the King, by the service of one-third of a Knight's-fee from his honor of Huntingdon^v.

3. EYNESBURY-CRESSENER's was, probably, part of the fee of Roger de Quinci which devolved to Margaret de Ferrers, and which was soon after constituted a distinct manor. The earliest notice of the possessors from whom its present name has sprung, occurs 1410; in which year William, son of Robert, Cressener was seized of the manor of Eynesbury, held in socage from William Lord Ferrers de Groby^z. It is traced^a, in the same family, as late as 1497, in which year it was held by John Cressener Esq. from John Lord Ferrers^b of Chartley.

4. The manor of EYNESBURY-BUCKLEY's has not been separately traced. It probably derived its present name from the Buckleys of Burgat, Hampshire, two of whom married into the family of Baron Nicholas Luke, possessor of the manor of Hardwick in this parish in 1544.

The *four manors* of EYNESBURY above mentioned were held, as united manors, by the Dyers^c. Sir Richard Dyer was the possessor

^v MSS. Harl. 760 (Cole's Esch.).—Inquis. at St. Neot's, 1 Apr. 31 Hen. VIII. MSS. Harl. 756, 759 (Cole's Esch.).

^z Escheats, 12 Hen. IV.

^a Escheats, 32 Hen. VI.

^b Escheats, 13 Hen. VII. n. 81, and n. 82.

^c Escheats, 19 James I.

in 1596^d; and Sir Lodowick Dyer of Great Staughton, Hunts., in 1621^e. About the same time they passed to Sir Oliver Luke^e, of Copley Wood, Beds.; who owned also Lan'sbury or Launcelyn'sbury grounds in this parish, which he sold to James Pedley of Abbotsley Esq., Sheriff of Huntingdonshire in 1629^f. From Sir Oliver, the manors were transferred to Rev. James Betton D. D.^f. Richard Gery, of Bushmead Priory, Gentleman of the Privy Chamber to King James and to Charles I., died in 1638 possessed of these manors; they were inherited by his son William Gery of Bushmead Priory Esq.^g. In the reign of Charles II. they belonged to Sir Sidney Montagu Knight; whose heir, Edward Earl of Sandwich, was Lord of the manor of Eynesbury and patron of the Church in 1667^h. Having continued to descend in the Montagu family, they are now the property of John the present Earl of Sandwich a minor.

II. The manor attached to the RECTORY, was held, at the period of the Norman Conquest, by

^d Deed 38 Eliz. among Eynesbury Vestry Records.

^e He was in the service of the Parliament during the civil wars, and was father of Sir Samuel Luke the supposed original of Hudibras.

^f MSS. Lansd. 921. (Cotton and Astry Notes on Hunts.)

^g Information of Rev. H. W. Gery of Bushmead Priory. See also MSS. Lansdowne 921.

^h MSS. Lansd. 921. (Cotton and Astry Notes on Hunts.).

Gilbert the Priest, from Judith Countess of Huntingdon: he held 2 hides, and had in demesne 2 carucates and 8 acres of meadow; the manor was valued by the Conqueror's Commissioners at 2*l.*ⁱ. The names of the successive possessors of this manor will be seen by referring to the list of Incumbents of Eynesbury (pp. 115—120.).

III. The manor of PUTTOCK'S-HARDWICK was in the possession of Saher de Quinci, in 1204^k. In 1279, Randolph de Freskeneye held it of Robert Brus, as of the honor of Huntingdon; Brus holding from the King of Scotland, and he from the King of England: it was half a Knight's-fee^l. The manor appears to have been then divided; for, in the same Inquisition, Simon de Haniton was found to hold in demesne, from Robert Brus, 40 acres of arable land in the same hamlet^l. In 1315 it was held by Walter de Mulesworth^m. In the early part of the reign of Edward IV. the manor of Puttock's-Hardwick was held by Sir John Manyngham, Knt.; and in 1474 it was granted by the King in fee to Anthony Lord Grey of Ruthin, together with 40 acres of land in Wealdⁿ. William Turpin held this manor from

ⁱ Domesday, Vol. II. fol. 206 b [App. XXI. A].

^k Cartul. of St. Neot's, MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 89 a [App. XVI. G.].

^l Hundred Roll, Tower, 7 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' n. 5, m. 3.

^m Nomina Villarum, 9 Edw. II., British Museum.

ⁿ Patent Rolls, Tower, 14 Edw. IV. m. 5.

1519 to 1536^o; soon after which it passed to Sir Walter Luke, and in 1544 descended, by his death, to Nicholas Luke Baron of the Exchequer, by whom it was held of the King^p. It continued in the Luke family for nearly a Century, when it was alienated to the Company of Haberdashers in London, who possessed it about 1660^q. After having been long possessed by the Kingsleys, it descended^r, by the maternal line, to Francis Pym of the Hazels Bedfordshire Esq.

IV. The manor of CALDECOT was held, in 1279, by Robert de Tottenhale, in capite of Robert Brus, as of the honor of Huntingdon; Brus holding from the King of Scotland, and he from the King of England^s. It was still held by the Tottenhales in 1315^t. From this period it has not been found practicable to trace the manor, till it appears in possession of Sir Oliver Luke^q about 1625. About 1660 it belonged to the Company of Haberdashers^q. The Kingsleys held it, for many years; from them^r it passed to Francis Pym of the Hazels Bedfordshire Esq.

^o MSS. Harl. 756. (Cole's Esch.) Inquis. 11 and 28 Hen. VIII.

^p MSS. Harl. 760. (Cole's Esch.) Inquis. at Huntingdon 36 Hen. VIII.

^q MSS. Lansd. 921. (Cotton and Astry Notes on Hunts.).

^r Information of F. Pym Esq.

^s Hundred Roll, Tower, 7 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' n. 5. m. 3.

^t Nomina Villarum, 9 Edw. II., British Museum.

A PORTION OF TITHES AT WEALD AND CALDECOT, was given, in a very remote period, to the Monks^u of St. Neot's. At the Dissolution these tithes came to the Crown, and were given to the Princess Elizabeth before her accession (see p. 188, note x). In 1600 they were granted^v by the Queen to the Bishop of Ely and his successors, being estimated at 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

^u Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 89 a. [App. XVI. *ff. G.*]

—See, also, pp. 74, 75 of this Volume.

^v Patent Rolls, Rolls' Chapel, 42 Eliz. p. 9.

CHAPTER IV.

Topographical Account of St. Neot's Huntingdonshire.

§ I.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PARISH.



SAINT NEOT'S parish extends over a portion of land which, at the Norman Conquest, constituted one of the manors of EYNESBURY. No notice of a distinct Church occurs, till the time of Lucius III: it is probable that the parish of St. NEOT's was set apart from Eynesbury, in a period immediately preceding his Pontificate, viz. in the year 1179, at the 3d Council of Lateran, when many of the parochial divisions of England are supposed to have been instituted.

The parish of St. Neot's is bounded, on the N. by the rivulet called Gallow-Brook, which separates it from Great Paxton and Toseland;—on the W. by the river Ouse, which parts it from

Eaton-Socon and Little Paxton;—on the S. by the stream called Hen-Brook,—and on the E. by a vicinal Roman Street,—both of which divide it from the parish of Eynesbury.

The Geological situation of this parish (as, also, of Eynesbury), is on the Stratum usually called the Blue-Marl, which forms a gentle slope, rising from W. to E. about 120 feet above the Ouse: besides the ordinary characteristic fossils, a rare and elegant variety of the *Ammonite*^a occurs here abundantly. No traces of the next superior Rock, the Green-Sand, have been observed. The former proximity of the Chalk is indicated by its detritus, a Chalk-and-Flint Rubble, which caps the hills.

The area of this parish has been estimated at 3387 acres: its surface is, consequently, rather more than $5\frac{1}{2}$ square miles. It was enclosed by Act of Parliament in 1770.

By the Census taken in 1811, the population of St. Neot's then consisted of 1988 persons, 1069 males and 919 females; the number of families being 401, and of inhabited houses 396.

^a AMMONITES DUNCANI: Sowerby's Mineral Conchology. Tab. CLVII. "SPEC. CHAR. *Depressed; inner whorls partly exposed; radii numerous, undulated; edge flat, bounded by 2 rows of tubercles in the interior whorls; a few tubercles occur on the sides of the inner whorls: aperture ovato-sagittate....* There is a peculiar elegance in this species, which makes us regret its rarity. The fine sharpness of the sinuated edges of the septa is beautiful.... It was found by J. and P. Duncan Esq^{rs}. after whom it is named, at St. Neot's."

§ II.

PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE TOWN &c.

THE present town of St. Neot's has grown out of the ancient village of EYNESBURY, since the institution of the Monastery in Century X. The name was changed to NEOTSBURY, immediately after the first foundation of the Priory^a, about 974; and it certainly still retained that appellation in 1078-9^b. Neotsbury, however, appears to have been rather the classical than the trivial name of this town; it was still, popularly, called Eynesbury^c. The name ST. NEOT'S was, probably, given to the town, when the parish was separated from Eynesbury, towards the end of Century XII.

ST. NEOT'S is situated on the E. bank of the Ouse. It has a capacious and nearly rectangular Market-Place, the area of which has been estimated as containing about 71,000 feet^d. There are four principal streets (High-street, Cambridge-street, Huntingdon-street, and St. Mary's-street),

^a Life of Neot, MSS. Bodl. 535. [App. III.].

^b Arch. Linc. Cath. "Mem. Oliv. Sutt." f. 122 b. [App. VI.].

^c In the time of Hen. I. it was usually called EYNESBURY; as appears by the authority of the Prior in 1285 [Roll Quo War. (App. XXII.)]. The name NEOTSBURY does not occur in the Cartulary of the Priory.

^d Hutchinson's MS. Collections for Huntingdonshire.

which meet in a common point called the Cross. The Crucifix^e, which stood here, was, probably, erected upon the spot where the body of Neot rested on its arrival from Cornwall; and the cruciform plan of the town itself had, perhaps, a reference to the supposed sanctity of the place.

The river Ouse is navigable from the port of Lynn to St. Neot's, and thence to Bedford. A considerable trade is carried on in corn, wine, coals, iron, timber, &c. The average breadth of the stream is 150 feet. The greater part of the town being only a few feet above the ordinary level of the river, inundations are sometimes consequent upon sudden thaws or very heavy rains, to such an extent as to render a navigation of the streets not merely practicable but necessary. The trifling descent, and, consequently, lazy^f progress, of the Ouse to the sea, is, undoubtedly, another cause of the frequent accumulation of its waters in the lower parts of the country through which it flows. Its proverbially tortuous^f course has been a subject

* Though all tradition of a Crucifix on this spot has long since vanished, yet there is perpetual reference to it in the Cartulary of the Priory. (MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 102 a. &c.)

^f “Ouse's *silent tide*” and “the *windings* of the stream,” not without their charms to the muse of Cowper, are among the thousand instances of his minutely faithful allusions. The Ouse is remarkable for the wildest sinuosities even from its birth;—the singularly devious course of the infant stream (from ‘Ouse Well’ its source near the manor house of Steane, to Brackley, in Northamptonshire) is a miniature of its more spacious wanderings in its subsequent track. The Leonine Verses of the Monkish

of frequent and favorite allusion. The fish, which ordinarily occur in this river, are, pike, perch, bream, chub, roach, dace, gudgeon, bleak, eels, and cray-fish.

The Ouse appears to have been formerly passable by two Fords at this place: one (already mentioned, p. 6.) from Eynesbury Cony-geer, immediately in front of the Roman Defence; the other at the site of the present Bridge, the tradition of which is perpetuated in the name of the opposite hamlet, EATON-FORD, or simply (as it was antiently^b called) FORDⁱ. The Bridge was, probably, first

Biographer of Neot (MSS. Bodl. 535. App. III), describe the character of the Ouse, (and of its tributary stream, the Ivel,) with topical accuracy, though not with poetical elegance:—

Est quidam Fluvius, vario sinuamine tensus,
Tractibus obliquis quosdam relegens Comitatus. . . .
Ast, alio de fonte satus, dat abunde meatus:
HEBLUS et OUSA sui prisci dixere coloni.

Michael Drayton (Polyolbion, Song XXII.) describes its devious course with the same fidelity:—

OUZE having Ouleneſy paſt, as ſhe were waxed mad,
From her firſt ſtayder courſe immediately doth gad;
And in meandred gyres doth whirle herſelf about
That, this way, here, and there, back, forward, in, and out;
Shoots forward to ST. NEOT's, into thoſe nether grounds
Towards Huntingdon, and leaves the lov'd Bedfordian bounds.

^b Cartularies of St. Neot's Priory [App. XV. and XVII.].

ⁱ Thus many of the antient passages of the Ouse are to be found in the names of places on its banks: *Stratford* [Streetford, where it was crossed by the Watling Street];—*Linford*; *Bedford*; *Barford*; *Temsford*; *Eaton-Ford* [where it was, perhaps, crossed by a Roman street from Camboritum to the

built by the Prior and Convent; who (besides considerable landed property on each side of the water) were possessed of “divers woods whereunto they had passage for their carts and cariags in by and through the said Bridge^k”: the same conclusion may be drawn from the circumstance, that the Convent was taxed with its repairs in the reign of Edward III.^k It was, probably, built soon after the endowment of the Monastery. The Cartulary of the Priory makes frequent mention of it, early in the reign of Henry III.—A dreadful accident occurred on this spot (38 Henry III.) to William de Ferrers, 5th Earl of Derby, and Lord of the manor of Eynesbury. Being a great sufferer from the gout, with which he had been afflicted from his youth, “he was drawn from place to place in a chariot.” While passing the Bridge of St. Neot’s¹, he was, through the carelessness of the driver, precipitated over the parapet: the Earl escaped immediate death, but his limbs were so shattered by the fall, that he survived only a short time, and

Camp at Irchester on the Nen]; *Offord* [Old-Ford, by the conjecture of Horsley]; and *Hemingford* [Hermen-Ford, where it was crossed by the Hermen-Street, or one of its branches according to the opinion of Dr. Stukeley].

^k MSS. Harl. 304. pp. 86, 87. [App. XXIX.]

¹ So Dugdale states [Baronage, Vol. I. p. 262.]; but his authority does not appear. He quotes, indeed, Matthew Paris, (a cotemporary of the Earl), who gives a narrative of the accident, but conceals the name of the place, his words being merely “de ponte quodam.”

died on 24 March 1254^m. About a Century after, in the reign of Richard II., the Bridge is described in the Patent Rollⁿ as being in a very ruinous state: it was then, 1388, either totally rebuilt or materially repaired; a toll for two years being granted for that purpose. When St. Neot's was visited by the Antiquary Leland, in the reign of Henry VIII., 1538, the Bridge was noticed by him as a wooden structure^o. This was, possibly, the antient Bridge built in the reign of Richard II.; which appears to have continued till 31 Elizabeth, when it was described (with its Causeway) as being 704 feet in length, and having no fewer than 72 arches—of which 43, with their piers, were constructed entirely of timber,—the remaining 29 being wooden frames supported by stone abutments^p. From the Inquisition then taken, it seems probable that the present stone Bridge was built in the following year, 1589, out of materials for which a convenient quarry was found on the spot in the ruins of the lately dissolved Priory: it spans the Ouse by 3 arches; of which the central is a cycloidal curve, the base

^m Matth. Paris. Hist. in an. 1254.

ⁿ Patent Rolls, Tower, 12 Ric. II. p. 1. m. 35.

^o “ The River there, harde by the Towne stondinge on the Este side of it, dividithe Huntyn dunshire from Bedfordshire, and yet a lytle lower both the Ripes be in Huntendunshir. *The Bridge of Seint Neotes is of Tymlar.*” Leland's Itin., Vol. I. p. 1.

^p MSS. Harl. 304, pp. 86. 87. [App. XXIX.]



Engraved by J. Mayhew, for the Proprietors of the Bridge, from a drawing by J. Mayhew.

The Great Bridge, Maidenhead, 1861, to 1862.

Printed and Sold by J. Mayhew, at the Bridge, Maidenhead.

(at the ordinary level of the stream) being 44 feet, and the axis $14\frac{1}{2}$.

A weekly Market on Thursdays was granted to this town by Henry I.^a.—There are four Fairs: 1. on Ascension-day, its eve, and the succeeding day, by Charter of Henry I.^a;—2. on that day three-weeks;—3. on the day of the Imprisonment of St. Peter, its eve, and the following day, (31 July, 1 Aug. and 2 Aug.) by Charter of Henry I.^r;—4. on the Festival of St. Neot [his translation?], its eve, and the succeeding day, (6, 7, and 8 December,) by Charter of Henry I.^s.

^a Roll Quo War. 14 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' m. 4. [App. XXII.].

^r Roll Quo War. 14 Edw. I. Com' Hunt' m. 4. [App. XXII.].—This Fair is now called '*Lammas*,' and is kept on 1 August; it is nearly disused. The Quo Waranto Roll states that it was fixed for the '*Imprisonment of St. Peter*,' 31 July, 1 Aug., and 2 Aug. The Cartulary does not allude to it; unless the Fair, No. 4., for the '*Festival of St. Neot*' should be referred to 30 and 31 July, and 1 Aug., as commemorating the day of his death, rather than of his translation.—Some confusion arises from the circumstance that the Quo War. Roll mentions *three* chartered Fairs, but specifies only *two*: and, also, from the loss of some of the royal Charters (relating to the Fairs) by the fall of the bell-tower in 1265.

^s Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. ff. 45 b. 46 b. 47 a. [App. XVI. 19.] This Fair is now called '*St. Nicholas*,' and is kept on 17 Dec. (having been altered, probably, with the style).—It was formerly observed on 6 Dec. [MSS. Lansdowne 921, p. 81.]; which was the eve of the arrival of the body of St. Neot from Cornwall.—It seems doubtful whether the Cartulary alludes to *this* or to the *preceding* Fair No. 3. (see note r.)

LOCAL COINS.

The following Tokens were struck, for this town, in the reign of Charles II.

1. A brass town-piece, in the British Museum (engraved in Snelling's "View of the Coinage of England," p. 16. Plate II. fig. 24.):

Obverse. THE OVERSEERS OF
encircling

THEIR HALFEPENY

Reverse. THE TOWNE OF ST EEDS
encircling

Two Women spinning.

2. A brass coin, in the British Museum :

Obverse. ROBERT DOMAN 1664
encircling

Three triple Crowns: intended for the
DRAPERS' ARMS.

Reverse. IN ST NEOTS DRAPER
encircling

D
RE

3. A coin, described in a MS. Catalogue :

Obverse. JOB PERRETT 1666 encircling

A Chevron between 3 sprinkling Salt-Cellars:
the SALTERS' ARMS.

Reverse. AT SAINT NEEDS encircling

P
IM

4. A coin described in Mr. Young's Catalogue :

Obverse. TH HANCOCKE

Reverse. OF SAINT NEOTS 1667 encircling
HIS HALFPENNY

5. A coin found at St. Neot's in 1818 :

Obverse. THOMAS ANNIS OF encircling
*Apollo with his head radiate, holding a Bow
and Arrow, and bestriding a Serpent : the*
APOTHECARIES' ARMS.

Reverse. SAINT NEOTTS 1667 encircling
HIS HALFPENNY

6. A copper coin :

Obverse. THOMAS NEWMAN encircling
*A demi Virgin Mary, with disheveled hair
crowned : the* MERCERS' ARMS.

Reverse. IN ST NEOTS 1667 encircling
HIS HALFPENNY ^N_{T.E}

7. A copper coin :

Obverse. IOHN NEWMAN encircling
A Chevron between 9 Cloves : the GROCERS'
ARMS.

Reverse. OF ST NEOTS encircling
.N.
I.M

8. A copper coin :

Obverse. IOHN HATLY BAKER encircling
HIS HALFPENNY

Reverse. IN ST NEOTES 1668 encircling
Nine Rolls, arranged lozengy.

9. A brass coin :

Obverse. IOHN HATLEY IN encircling
A shield charged with, *A Sword in bend-
sinister between 2 Etoiles*".

Reverse. SAINT NEOTS encircling
M

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH.

FOR nearly a Century after the Priory had been made Alien it is probable that NEOTSBURY had no other places of worship than the Church of (the present) EYNESBURY, and the Chapel of the Monastery. These being found insufficient for the population which began to gather around the Shrine of Neot, may be reasonably considered as the cause of the institution of a separate parish, and of the erection of another sacred Edifice at St. NEOT's, dedicated (like the more antient Church at Eynesbury) to St. Mary. The date of this event has already been stated (pp. 75, 136.) as, probably, about 1179. The Prior and Convent (having,

^u The armorial Bearing of "HATLEY of St. Edes" is given somewhat differently by Edmonson. *A Sword in bend Argent, hilt and pommel Or, between 2 Mulletts of 6 points pierced of the Second. Crest: out of a Ducal Coronet, an Antelope's head Or, armed tufted and maned Sable, pierced through the neck with a broken spear Gules.*

perhaps, built and procured endowment for the Church) became the patrons of the Rectory; which they appropriated (probably after a single Incumbency) to their own uses^v about 1183 (see p. 75.)

The present Church is an elegant and symmetrical example of that light and airy Gothic which attained its greatest excellence in the reign of Henry VII. Although the character of its architecture is too decidedly marked to render the *period* of its erection a matter of uncertainty; yet the precise *year* of its foundation has not been correctly ascertained. On the respectable authority of Browne Willis^w (who, however, does not quote the document on which his testimony relies), it is stated to have been erected “about 1507”—a date which is, probably, that of its completion. No information has hitherto been obtained which throws any light upon the question, Who were the founders and benefactors by whose munificence this beautiful Edifice was reared? It may be conjectured that the Prior and Convent contributed largely to the expense; from the considerations,

^v Cartul., MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 37 a. [App. XVI. §.].

^w “ST. NEOT’S parish Church, the noblest in the County; the tower is one of the finest in England. . . built about 1507”: MS. note, in the hand-writing of Browne Willis, in the margin of his Survey of Lincoln Cathedral, seen by Mr. Cole in 1760 [MSS. Brit. Mus. Cole, Vol. XXXV. p. 127.]. This MSS. note does not, however, appear in any of the printed copies, with marginal MS. additions, preserved in the Bodleian Library.

that they were the impropiators of the Rectory, and patrons of the Vicarage: this conclusion is further corroborated by the fact that, almost immediately after the completion of the new Church, the existing Vicar resigned and was succeeded by the Prior of St. Neot's*—the *only* instance of a Prior having been also an Incumbent of this Living. It is probable that Thomas Lynd^y of St. Neot's, was a considerable benefactor; since the Convent transferred to him the right of presentation to two of their Livings (St. Neot's and Burton) for one turn^x.

The plan and style of this Structure is perfectly uniform. Its extreme length, from the W. door of the tower to the E. window, is 152 feet; its breadth 60 feet, exclusive of the porches. At the head of each of the buttresses, are two grotesque corbels, supporting an ogee canopy (fringed with crockets and terminated by a finial) within which a cinquefoil and a trefoil with flowery cusps mutually intersect each other.

In the interior, five lofty pointed arches are seen on each side of the nave. These spring from elevated pillars, broken into four slender shafts, which are bound below the unornamented capital by a fillet: the effect of these simply elegant columns has been considerably impaired by a modern

* See the List of Vicars, below, p. 175.

^y See his Epitaph below, p. 160.



Interior of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul, London

wash, with which it has been tastelessly attempted to represent a blue-veined marble, but which ill harmonizes with the chaste simplicity of this Structure. Each of the upright mouldings (which divide the spandrils of the arches and sustain the cross-springers of the roof) has been supported by a corbel formed of the Tudor flower, of which two only remain.

Upon one of the cross-beams, of the ornamented oaken roof, appears the following inscription,

1635
P. C. L. F.

the characters being cast in lead: this might lead to an erroneous idea that the roof was restored in that year; which, however, was certainly not the fact, part of the original mouldings having been cut away to let in this tablet, which probably refers to a period when the Church was covered with lead, or underwent considerable repairs. The present roof is, undoubtedly, coëval with the Edifice. It is bordered by a beautiful cornice of oak, upon which (between mouldings of vine-leaves) are mermaids, fishes, deer, hares, hippogriffs, and other grotesque designs, carved in fine relief. On this cornice, corresponding perpendicularly with the centres of the arches of the nave, are ten Angels; one holds a chalice and bread; the others support either an open book, or an escutcheon; and each bears a Cross pattée on the

head. The shields which they display are all blank, with the exception of that over the arch nearest the chancel on the S. side of the nave,

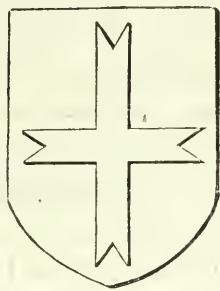


which is charged with a *Cross bottonnée*: it has not been ascertained to whom this achievement belongs.

The roof of the chancel is upon a lower pitch; its cross-beams are supported by eight full length figures, designed (perhaps) to represent some of the Apostles. Reckoning from the W. end of the N. wall, the 1st of these figures holds a knife in his right hand and a book in the left (Bartholomew?); 2d exhibits a roll of paper in his left hand, his right is gone, a large bag or purse is suspended by a belt from the shoulder; 3d bears a book in the left; 4th sustains a chalice (John); 5th displays a key (Peter); 6th has his left hand

under his robe, in the fold of which are three small semi-globular bodies; 7th merely supports his robes with his right hand; 8th has a book in his left. A scroll encircling the body of each figure has formerly contained a legend descriptive of the person for whom it was intended.

On one of the cross-springers of the roof of the N. aisle a shield charged with a *Cross double-*



fitchée: it has been brought from some other situation (perhaps from the dissolved Monastery?).

On the cornice of the roof in the S. aisle of the chancel, appears an Angel holding a Crown ornamented with three Fleur-de-lis.

Jesus' Chapel formerly occupied the space which now forms the N. aisle of the chancel. The cornice of its roof is filled with the characters *ih̄c*, the usual Catholic contraction for *Jesus*²: The same letters are embossed upon an escutcheon on each of the buttresses on the exterior. Probably

² It is singular that the notion should have been entertained, that the *ih̄s* and *ih̄c* (or the modern IHS and IHC) are abbreviations for *Jesus Hominum Salvator* and *Jesus Hominum Conso-*

this Chapel was a Chantry for the service of masses for the soul of the Founder. After the Reformation it was used as a parish School-room, until 1745, when it was thrown open to the Church.

All the windows of this Church (twenty-eight) have been filled with stained glass; as appears from the mutilated fragments. The remains are very trifling. Some demolition, perhaps, took place, when this Church was visited by Queen Elizabeth's Commissioners, in the early part of her reign, between 1558—1581 (see p. 170.). It may be further conjectured that the glass suffered much from the anti-legendary zeal of the Puritans in the time of Charles I.; perhaps it was visited by the merciless William Dousing^a, or some other image-breaking Commissioner, in 1642: it was, also, the temporary depôt of the prisoners taken at St. Neot's, in 1648, by the Parliamentary

lator. The least acquaintance with Catholic MSS., is sufficient to shew that they are the usual abbreviations for *Jesus*, spelt after the Greek (IH̄COC or IH̄COC) either by the ignorance of the Monkish scribes [as Mr. Casley thinks] or possibly through a superstitious veneration for the original letters of the Sacred Name. See this and some other popular errors well exposed in Casley's *Catal. MSS. King's Libr. Pref. p. xxiii.*

^a He certainly visited *some* of the Huntingdonshire Churches (as well as those of Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, and Essex, more especially consigned to his ravages); for he states his demolitions at *Gransden*. See a fragment of his Journal in MSS. Publ. Libr. Camb., Baker, Vol. XXXVIII. p. 455; published in Dr. Z. Grey's "Schismatics delineated."

Forces^b;—an occasion on which it can scarcely be imagined that the Edifice sustained no injury. St. Neot's Church was twice visited by the Heralds; on 19 August 1613, by Nicholas Charles, Lancaster; and on 26 July 1684, by Gregory King, Lancaster;—on which occasions several Church-notes were taken. As the Arms and Inscriptions in the windows noticed in 1613 had disappeared in 1684 (with the exception of one mutilated coat), the conclusion that much of the painted glass was demolished in 1642 or 1648 becomes still more probable.

The following armorial Bearings in stained glass formerly existed here: viz.

1. *Quarterly*:—first and fourth; *Azure*, 3 *Fleur-de-lis Or*, for FRANCE;—second and third, *Gules*, 3 *Lions passant guardant in pale Or*, for ENGLAND. Remaining in 1613^c.

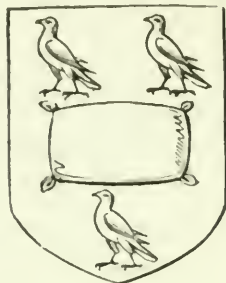


2. *Gules*, a *Castle Argent* between 2 *Lions rampant Or*. Remaining in 1613^c.

^b See § V. of this Chapter.

^c MSS. Harl. 1179. p. 45. (Visit. Hunts. 1613.).

3. *Azure, a Woolpack Argent between 3 Birds* [Doves?] *of the Same beaked and leged Gules.* Remaining in 1613^c.



4. *Gules, Fretty Argent, on a Chief Or a Lion passant of the First*^c. Remaining in 1684, mutilated, in the E. window of the S. aisle^d. For SMITH^e?

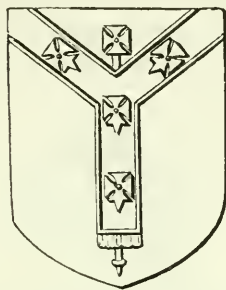
5. One coat still remains, which was overlooked in the Heraldic Visitations, and which is in the highest compartment of the first window from the W. of the S. aisle. *Azure, an Episcopal Staff in pale ensigned with a Cross patée Or; surmounted by a*

^c MSS. Harl. 1179. p. 45. (Visit. Hunts. 1613.).

^d The *Lion in Chief* was then gone; but the *Fret* remained: —MSS. College at Arms K. 7. (Visit. Hunts. 1684.).

^e This bearing (though with different tinctures) was granted in 1583 to *Smith* of London. In 1583 one *W. Smith* was instituted to the Vicarage of St. Neot's; for whom this achievement may, perhaps, have been intended. Or perhaps it was the Bearing of *Ralph Smith*, patron of this Vicarage in 1541 (See the list of Vicars below p. 176.). The same coat was in the E. window of the S. aisle of Eaton-Socon Church: MSS. Brit. Mus. Cole, Vol. XXIII. p. 50.

Pall Argent edged and fringed of the Second, charged with 4 Crosses pattée-fitchée Sable: for THE



SEE OF CANTERBURY. This shield is displayed by an Angel.

Some slight remains of drapery &c. attest the beauty of the coloring of the figures which have once adorned these windows. In the N. aisle the first window from the W. contains two full-length representations of Angels; the next has two Saints, one of whom has his robe opened at the breast where he exhibits a Rosary: these four figures are executed with considerable delicacy, but have been decapitated by some pilfering Antiquary. The fourth window from the W. has probably contained figures of St. Etheldreda (see p. 158), and of St. Catharine, whose wheel still remains. In the E. window of the S. aisle there is a figure sitting with a book in his lap, intended, probably for St. Paul.

The first window from the W. of the S. aisle contains instruments used at the Crucifixion. In one of the upper compartments appears a large

8. In a similar style and in the corresponding part of the frame is the monogram $\mathfrak{M} R$ exquisitely designed: the cypher repeats reversely, the space between the intersection of the letters being delicately pierced in foliated tracery: the limb of



the cypher is stained of a dark mulberry color strung with pearls; the tracery with which it is fringed is of a bright yellow.—The cusp of the arch of the opposite window in the N. aisle is occupied by another monogram, of the same character,



but of a more simple design: the cypher is surmounted by a Crown and Sceptre, and the whole is stained of a bright yellow. These cyphers are compendious legends for the Virgin; intended (probably) as abbreviations for *maRia*. Such

monograms are not unfrequently affixed to Catholic Madonnas; and are found in many Churches, particularly those erected in Century XV., executed with the most ingenious variety of design^f.

One of the windows (it is not specified which) formerly exhibited a legend, stating that it was glazed at the cost of JOHN and ROBERT ARNOLD, and their respective wives CHRISTIANA and ALICIA: it remained, as follows, in 1613^g;

~
Orate pro aīabus Joh'is Arnold et Christianæ uxoris
eius, et pro bono statu Rob'ti Arnold et Aliciæ uxoris
eius, qui istam fenestram vitriaberunt.

A window in the S. aisle (the third from the E.) and its opposite in the N., appear to acknowledge

^f The Suffolk Churches abound with examples of the **∞** and **∞ R** wrought into a cypher. The most striking, perhaps, are at Framlingham, where it occurs on an escutcheon borne by an Angel forming the pedestal of a niche for the Virgin;—on the S. porch of Southwold, repeated nine times;—on the S. porches of Eye and of Worlingham. An example from Ramsey Church Essex, (engraved in Nichols' Brit. Topog. Vol. VI. N^o. XLI. p. 129.) nearly resembles the second of those given above. But the most elegant specimens of this monogram are those selected by Gough, Sepulchral Monuments, Vol. II. Part I. Plates XXV. fig. 8. XXVII. fig. 3. (particularly beautiful) and fig. 5. LXXII. The last is a curious example, being an engraving from a painting (formerly on the wall of Hungerford Chapel in Salisbury Cathedral,) the whole surface of which was sprinkled with the characters **∞** and **ihc** emblematical of the Virgin and Child.

^g MSS. Harl. 1179. p. 45. (Visit. Hunts. 1613.).

ROBERT EDINGTON as the benefactor: The letters **R** **E** are elegantly traced in large characters: in several compartments is depicted a wine-tun marked with an **r**; which, in one instance, is fancifully placed by the side of a scroll displaying the name thus divided

Robētus Edyng:tun senīor.

No other legends remain, except in mutilated and disjointed fragments: the following are scarcely worthy of being rescued from oblivion:

Sca Etheldreda ora pro nobis

Sit Dñs cum spū meo

Honor deo

In dño confido

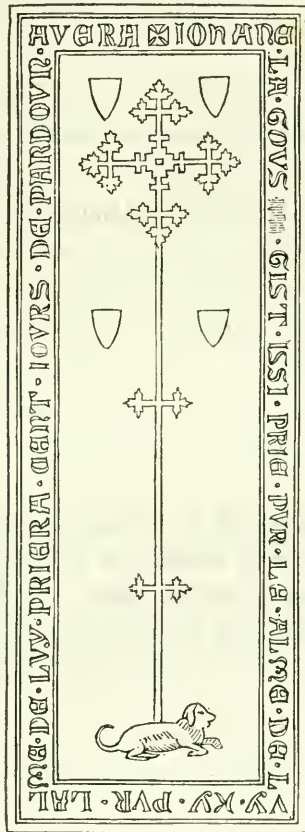
All may god amend

the first of these inscriptions, in a window of the N. aisle, was probably annexed to a figure of St. Etheldreda, the patroness of the Isle of Ely; the last legend, in the S. aisle, possibly points out a benefactor in John Ruding, LL. B., it being the motto annexed to his Arms on his tombstone in Biggleswade Church, Bedfordshire^b: he died, Archdeacon of Lincoln, in 1481.

At the W. end of the N. aisle is an octagonal stone font, devoid of ornament; it is, probably, of the same age as the Church.

^b Willis' Cathedrals, Vol. III. p. 102. Gough's Sepul. Mon. Vol. II. p. 274.

Of the sepulchral inscriptions existing within this Church, the most antient is a slab of dark-blue marble upon the floor of the passage between the N. and S. porches. Upon the face of the



stone is a dog (the emblem of vigilance) supporting a Cross, of which the stem is represented as budding, and the transverse beams as branching into trefoils (thrice-ternate). The brass has long since

been detached; but the sockets of the letters have perpetuated the characters,

IOHANE · L̄A · LOVSle · LIST · ISSI ·
 PRIE · PVR · LE · ALME · DE · LVY ·
 KY · PVR · L̄ALME · DE · LVY · PRIER̄A ·
 CENT · IOVRS · DE · PARDOVN · AVER̄A ✠

this inscription may with some probability be referred either to JOHN DE ESLINGHAM, Vicar of St. Neot's, who died 1305, or to JOHN DE SICCA VALLE, also Vicar, who died between 1315—1349¹: it can scarcely be more recent than the latter date^k. This elegant tomb-stone was copied^l by the Herald Gregory King in 1684. It was engraved, also, for Mr. Gough's *Sepulchral Monuments*^m.

Many other brasses have perished: the following was formerly in the N. aisle:

Of por charite p̄ for y^e soules of Thōas Lynde
 late Doman of y^e Crolone to o^e Soucayne Lorde
 King Henry y^e viiith. Alice and Johanne his
 wybes: whiche Thōs deceasyd the xxii day of Mēche
 y^e yere of o^e Lord M.CCCCXXVJ.

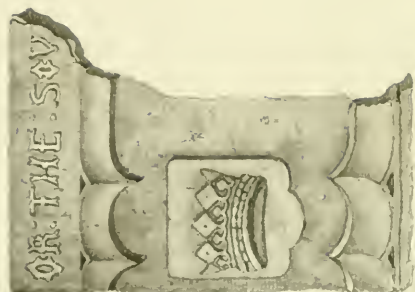
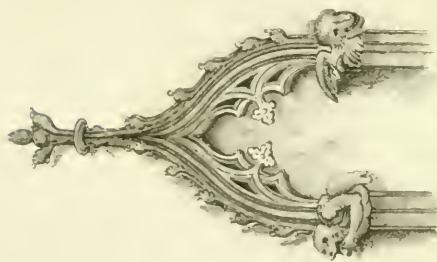
“ The plate for him remains [24 July 1684]; viz^t. in the habit of a Yeoman of the Guard

¹ See below, List of Vicars, p. 173.

^k The name *Gousle* [or Goushill] remained in this parish in 1702. “Bap. May 7. 1702. Ann daughter of *John Gousle*.”

^l MSS. College of Arms K. 7. (Visit. Hunts. 1684.).

^m Gough's *Sep. Mon.* Vol. II. p. cexlvii. Plate XVIII. fig. 5.



with his Pole-Axe, a Rose on his breast, and a Crown on his left breast or shoulder: the brass for his wives gone: the inscription taken off but remains with the sexton: four Roses at each corner; but no Armsⁿ." The whole has been long since effaced.

Jesus' Chapel contains the fragment of a mural tablet, on which (above an escutcheon charged with a *Crown*) are the characters

OR:THE:SOV

about the year 1745 there was an inscription, also, under the shield°. A strange opinion has been adopted, that this fragment has some reference to ST. NEOT. It is instructive, as well as amusing, to observe by what gentle transitions, from unintentional error to bold speculation, a favorite theory may be plausibly supported. The *Crown*^p on the shield was supposed to denote the royal birth of the Saint (see p. 25); the R was

ⁿ MSS. College of Arms, K. 7. p. 18. (Visit. Hunts. 24 July 1684).


^o "Underneath the Crown was an inscription, as appears from the testimony of a respectable person in this place who preserved the fragment when the Chapel was laid open." MS. Letter (22 April, 1786) from Rev. W. Cole to Rev. Mr. Forster.

^p "In it (Jesus' Chapel) were the remains of a monument supposed to have once contained such bones of ST. NEOT as were carried thither from his Monastery in Cornwall. A regal *Crown* carved in stone (denoting the royal birth of the person to whose memory the monument was erected) and underneath it the let-

inaccurately^p copied as a B; and the punctuation was omitted as being immaterial: thus instead of OR:THE:SOV the Antiquary was presented with OBTHESOV as the materials upon which his ingenuity might work.—The learned, but fanciful, Mr. Whitaker^q (having asked no further indulgence than the change of a single letter, O into A) ventured the following restoration;

OB THESAVrum in Cælo
Coronam tradidit fratri suo juniori:

an inscription which was supposed to be the counterpart of a legend^r in one of the windows in the Church of St. Neot's Cornwall. His imagination then perceived in this fragment "a pedestal to a chest" enveloping the relics of Neot; which he believed to have been the very Shrine of the Saint mentioned in John de Tinmouth! (see p. 66. note m.)

ters OBTHESOV are still preserved". [Forster's Account of the Church at St. Neot's in Cornwall, pp. 25. 26].—"The ingenious Mr. Pennant, a few years since, saw this *Crown*, and thought it a curious piece of antiquity; he insisted on its being a *Crown* not a Coronet. . . . We may fairly conclude, that the *Saint* was buried here, from the *Crown* over the Monument." [MS. Letter (22 April 1786) from Rev. W. Cole to Rev. Mr. Forster].—This ingenious theory was pursued still further in a speculation that the "*Crown* in painted glass" (above the Cypher  R, see the Engraving, p. 156.) "had probably some reference to the patron Saint"! [Forster's Account &c. p. 26].

^q Whitaker's Life of Neot, pp. 290. 291.

^r *Hic Coronam tradidit Fratri suo juniori.*

Another conjecture^s, not less ridiculous, states that this tablet commemorated the munificence of a royal benefactor,

OB THESAVrum huic Ecclesiæ donatum.

These ridiculously ingenious speculations have been wasted upon the ordinary Catholic legend

Of: your: charite: pray: f **OR:THE:SOV** *l: of:.....*

The *Crown* was, doubtless, the armorial Achievement of the person for whom this monument was made; and who, probably, was the Founder^t of Jesus' Chapel.

A mutilated brass occupies the centre of the pavement of this Chapel, to commemorate the decease of SIR ROBERT PAYNE, Knight, of Midlow near St. Neot's. The following description is supplied chiefly from the Heralds' Church-notes taken in 1684^u and from a Collection^v of Epitaphs

^s Quoted in some MS. Papers of Rev. Mr. Forster of Boconnoc.

^t The Shield (*differing* in its shape from all others in the Church) is precisely on the *same* model as those on the buttresses of Jesus' Chapel which bear the characters *ihc*.

^u MSS. College of Arms, K. 7.

^v Monumental Inscriptions in Hunts. taken by R. S. de W. [R. Smith of Woodstone], 1740—1750: a MS. in the possession of J. Simmons Esq. of Paddington House, containing valuable Collections for a County History. It probably contains the unpublished Collections of J. Clements of Allwalton, begun in 1732. A singular mistake has been made, by Mr. Noble, respecting this person: misled by the word "*Visitation*" (which he understood in the *Heraldic* sense), he thus comments on Gough—

made between 1732-50.—Below is a brass plate with the following inscription (now nearly effaced);

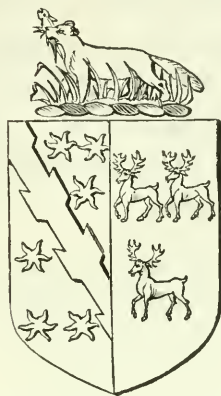
HERE LIES INTERRED THE BODY OF *SIR ROBERT PAYNE* KNIGHT, DECEASED THE 18TH DAY OF JUNE A^o. DⁿI 1631, AGED 58 YEARS: WHO MARRIED ELIZABETH THE DAUGHTER OF GEORGE ROTHERAM OF SOMERIS IN COM. BEDFORD ESQ.; BY WHOME HE HAD ISSUE 5 SONNS AND 6 DAUGHTERS.

THIS MOURNING VAULT OF DEATH, THAT MUST RETAYNE
AS PLEDGE AWHILE THE DUST OF HONOURED *PAYNE*,
IS BUT HIS TOMBE, NOR CAN IT STYLED BE
A MONUMENT OF HIM; HIS MEMORIE,
AND FAME ON EARTH, WITH THOSE GOOD DEEDS HE SENT
★ TO HEAVEN BEFORE HIM, ARE HIS MONUMENT.
THE COUNTRY'S TEARS, FARR BETTER THAN THIS STONE,
WILL TELL THE READER NOBLE *PAYNE* IS GONE;
ASK THEM, NOT MEE; THEY FEEL THE LOSS OF HIM,
AND WILL FOR EVER KEEP HIS JUST ESTEEM.

In the centre of the stone, inlaid in brass, was the figure of a Knight in a kneeling posture, and of a Lady by his side, (remaining about 1732^v). At the

“ Mr. Gough says, ‘ Ashby has a printed undated receipt for 5s. for a *Visitation* by J. Clements’; as there is no such *Herald* as J. C., we must suppose he was only a *riding Painter* to some Clarenceux, or else to one of the Marshals or other agent of theirs.” [Noble’s History of the College of Arms, Appendix p. xxvii.]. Mr. C. was merely a private Collector who issued a prospectus for publishing “ *NOTITIA ECCLESIASTICA, or A Visitation of all the Churches in Huntingdonshire,*” which prospectus (enclosed in a letter to Browne Willis) is preserved in the Bodleian Library, MSS. Willis, Vol. XXXIX.: the above-mentioned receipt is nothing more than an acknowledgment for a *subscription* to his proposed work!

head were two shields :—1. [*Azure*] a *Bend ragulé* between 6 *Etoiles* [*Or*], for PAYNE^w (still remaining) :—2. *Party per pale* : on the dexter side, the Coat of PAYNE; on the sinister, [*Vert*] 3 *Stags*



trippant [*Or*], for ROTHERAM, (gone). Sir Robert Payne was Sheriff of Cambridge and Huntingdonshire in 1607. In the Visitations for Hunts. of 1613 and 1684, his family is traced as resident in St. Neot's from the time of Elizabeth to the end of the reign of Charles II.*. The last notice of

^w The Crest for PAYNE was,—*A Beaver passant Or in Grass Vert, in his mouth a Fish Argent* (MSS. Harl. 1179. Visitation for Hunts. 1613). The same Crest, [*the Beaver proper*] was noticed by Sir Robert Cotton, in the Hall at Midlow, in stained glass, “in a window i' th' little parlor,” with the Arms of WATERTON in 12 quarterings (MSS. Lansdowne 921. p. 67.). The Crest was, no doubt, taken from the latter family: for Robert Payne Esq. of St. Neot's, father of Sir Robert Payne of Midlow, married Maria daughter of Sir Robert Waterton of Waterton Yorkshire (MSS. Harl. 1179).

* MSS. Harl. 1179.; and MSS. Coll. of Arms, K. 7.

the Paynes occurs (in St. Neot's Vestry Records) about the middle of the last Century.

At the E. end of the S. aisle, by the chancel door, is a slab, on the floor, which commemorates the death of ANN the wife of Captain SAMUEL MATTHEWS* of the County of Kilkenny; who fled her country on account of the atrocities of the Irish in the rebellion of 1689. The inscription^v has been embossed in highly relieved capitals; but is now nearly defaced:

HIC IACET ANNA
MATTHEVS ALIAS
CVFF VXOR DV
CIS SAMVELIS MA
TTHEVS IN COMITA
TV KILKENIE QUÆ
FVGIENS A SÆVIS
HIBERNORUM MA
NIBVS HIC OBIT
OCTAVO DIE
MAII ANNO
MDCLXXXIX

Below are these Arms. *Quarterly*: first and fourth, 3 *Chevronels*; second and third, a *Lion rampant* (*reguardant?*): for MATTHEWS.

Near the same spot is a black-marble slab on the floor: the inscription is neither elegant, nor even correct—

* His name occurs in a pamphlet, published in 1690,—“A List of persons who are all, by an Act of a pretended Parliament assembled at Dublin 7 May 1689 before the late King James, attainted of High Treason.”

H. S. E.

Corpus

SAM. SCARLET olim de Lynn R^o.

In Comit. Norfolciæ Mercator.

Quem illuc in itinere mors vocabat

17 Aprilis Anno Dom. 1698. Ætat. 49.

Terra, pater, conjux carus (dum vixit) amansque;

Nunc illum in Cælo gloria summa beat.

On the floor of the middle aisle, near the W.
door, is a black-marble slab, thus inscribed—

M. S.

LAURENTIJ THOMPSON, GEN.

Apud Drayton in Com. Salopiæ nati,

Pietate spectabilis;

Affectione conjugali,

Benignitate paterna,

Benevolentia universali,

Amanti, venerandi, laudandi.

Uxorum prima

ELIZABETHA, ROB. DORMAN Gen. filia,

De hoc oppido oriunda

Obijt 1 Julij 1705:

Altera ELIZ., filia JOSEPHI CRAMPHORNE,

Vidua THO. HYDE Com. Hartfordiæ Gen.,

Hujus jam RELICTA mortem deflet.

Tribus e novem liberis,

E priori conjuge adhuc superstitibus

Duobus filiis, filiæ unicæ,

Mæstissimis,

Sui desiderium reliquit

8 Apr. Anno Salutis 1724 Ætatis suæ 63.

The following Arms appear. *Quarterly*: first and
fourth, *Gules, a Lion passant guardant between*

three Cross-crosslets Or; second and fourth, Or, a Fess between three Martlets Sable. Crest: A Lion rampant Or, ducally gorged Azure. For THOMPSON.

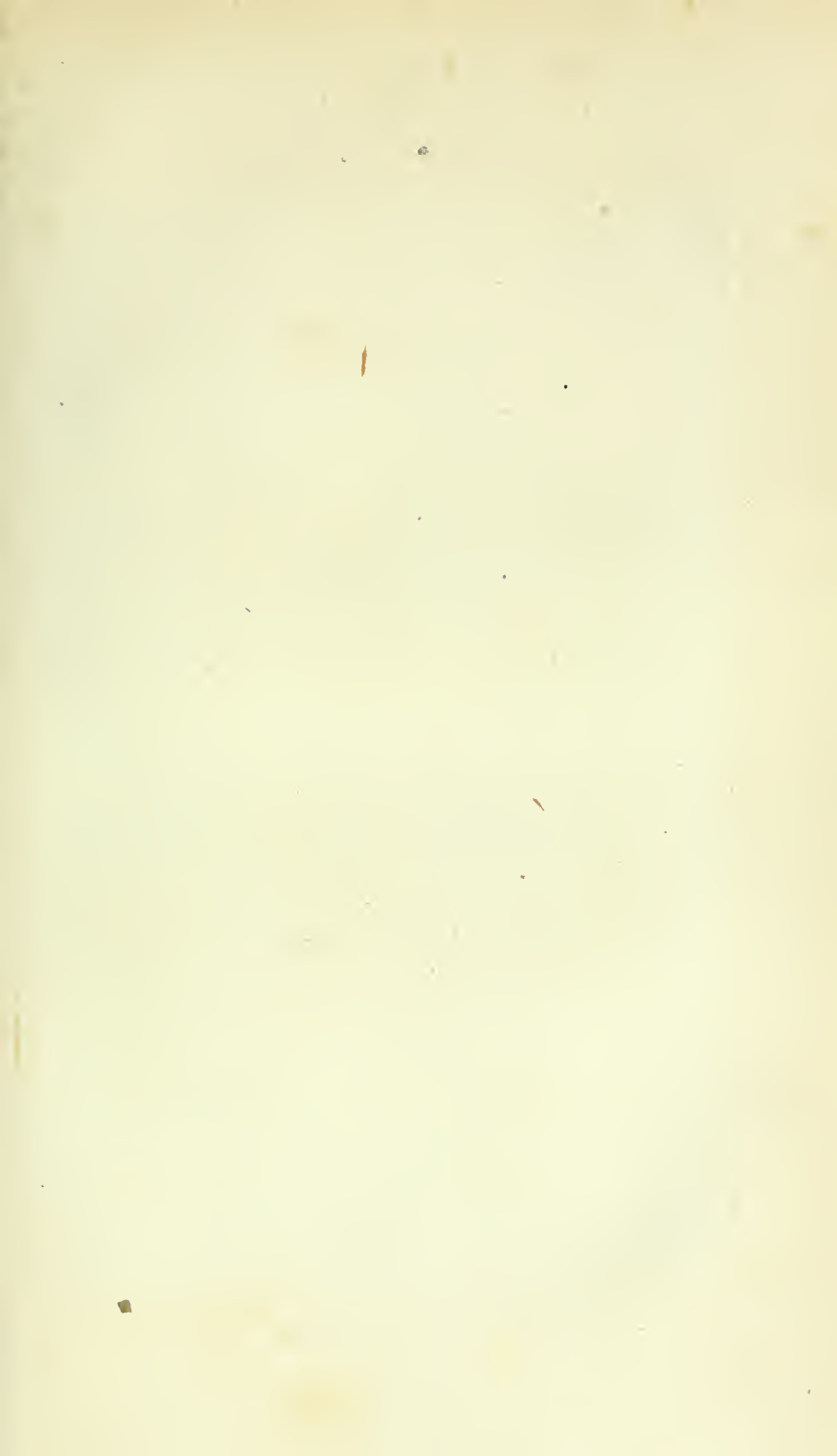
In the chancel are two hatchments:—

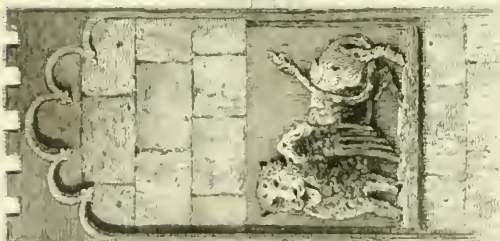
1. *Azure, on a Bend between 6 Lozenges Or each charged with an Escalop-Shell Sable 5 Escalop-Shells of the Last; for ROBERT PULLEYN of St. Neot's Esq.*

2. *Party per pale: on the dexter side The Coat of PULLEYN; on the sinister, Gules, on a Chief indented Azure 3 Escalop-Shells Sable, for Crest: a Pelican in her Piety, Or.*

The Organ, with which the Church is furnished, having been built by a private gentleman, Justinian Morse M. D. of Barnet (a celebrated mechanical and musical genius), was presented by him to the Church of that place, with the stipulation that it should be forfeited if the parish ceased to provide an organist. These conditions not having been complied with, Dr. Morse himself, for some time, performed. It was, finally, removed to St. Neot's; where it was opened, by Dr. Randall of Cambridge, in September 1749.

A stone stair-case leads from the middle of the S. aisle to a room, over the south porch, called Dove's Chamber; where there is a small theological Library for the use of the Minister. It probably received its name from ROBERT DOVE, Vicar of this Church from 1617 to 1622.





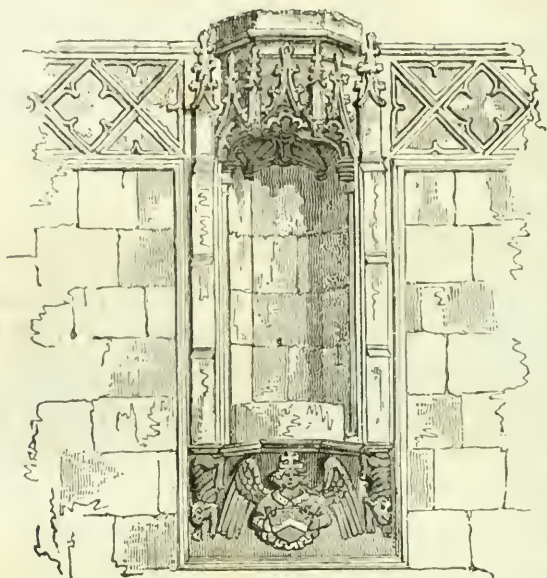
At the W. end of the nave rises a beautifully-proportioned and florid tower^z; belted by four rich zones of quatrefoils, the upper of which constitutes a double border. The elevation, to the apex of the pinnacles, is 128 feet: the altitude, to the water-course of the roof, is precisely 100 feet. At each angle are two buttresses, which ascend by five ranges, and are crowned by secondary pinnacles similar to the primary;—each range is faced with arcade-panneling, of a double and single arch alternately;—the third and fifth stages are finished by a rich ogee canopy fringed with crockets and supported by grotesque corbels. The battlements are counter-embattled, and on the face of each appears the Tudor flower. On each side of the tower, the middle battlement (originally crowned by three slender pinnacles^a) exhibits an emblematical representation of an Evangelist: on the N. is the winged *Lion* of St. Mark; on the W. the *Ox* of St. Luke; on the S.

* The centre of this tower was selected for one of the angular points of the triangles in the great Trigonometrical Survey of England; its position, in reference to the Meridian of Greenwich, has consequently been determined with delicate precision [See Trig. Surv. Vol. II. p. 126]:

	°	'	"
Latitude N.	52	13	34.7
Longitude W.		15	49.9
Time after Greenwich.		1	3.3
Distance from the Meridian of Greenwich (in feet)	59630		
Distance from the Perpendicular to the Meridian	273475		

^a See Lamborne's geometrical elevation of the W. front of St. Neot's tower, published in 1764.

the *Angel* of St. Matthew; and on the E. the *Eagle* of St. John.—On the S. side, about half way up the tower, is a niche which has, doubtless, for-



merly sheltered a statue of the Virgin, to whom the Church is dedicated. This image^b was, probably, removed either in 1547 or 1559. At the same time, perhaps, the tabernacle-work of the

^b The following particulars are recorded respecting the removal of images &c. from St. Neot's Church.—By the injunction of Edward VI. (in 1547), several "*Altars*" and the "*Rood-loft*" were taken down [see App. XXVIII.†].—On the re-establishment of Popery by Queen Mary, the Commissioners for Cardinal Pole's Visitation (in Aug. 1556) ordered that "all the *Altars* which were in the Church before the schism" should be re-erected by the end of that month, and that the *Rood-loft*

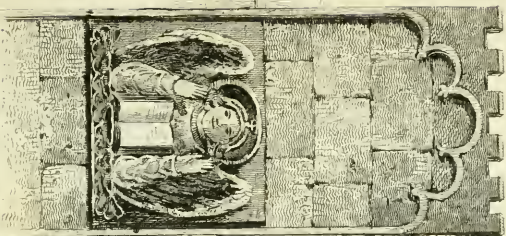


Fig. 1. of the figure of an angel.

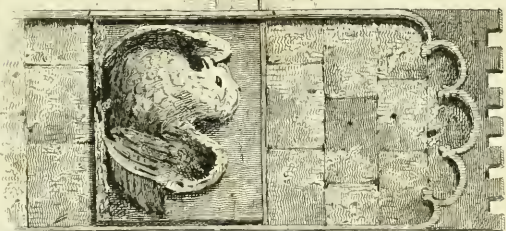


Fig. 2. of the figure of an angel.

Plate 1. of the figures of angels.

Fig. 1. of the figure of an angel.

canopy was disfigured^c; but the vault of its roof still displays some pretty tracery. Beneath the pedestal, is an Angel supporting a shield which displays a *Chevron*^d: this bearing was, possibly, that of the Monastery of St. Neot, to which the parochial Church was appropriated (see p. 81.); or, perhaps, it was intended for *Or, a Chevron Gules*, the arms of STAFFORD^e Duke of Buckingham, who was patron of the Priory.

The tower contains a fine peal of 8 bells, cast by^f Joseph Eyre of St. Neot's—the seven smaller,

with the *Images* should be restored by Easter 1557, a rate being levied on the parishioners for that purpose [see App. XXVIII.‡] —The revival of these Catholic memorials was of short continuance; for, in August 1559, Elizabeth's Commissioners finally demolished them. The three Visitors for St. Neot's Church were, Dr. Bentham (afterwards Bp. of Litchfield), Mr. (afterwards Serjeant) Fleetwood, and Dr. Nevynson; who “caused the *Rood-loft* there to be cut down, by the seats of the choir, leaving no memorial thereof,” as “an example to the residue of the country to do the like” [see this Vol. p. 214. note].

^c It was afterwards still more defaced for the reception of the Dial; on the removal of which, in 1818, the defect was supplied by modern masonry. In the Engraving, a restoration has been attempted; which, if not an *identical resemblance*, may be considered as a *close approximation* to the original.

^d Noticed by the Heralds in the Visitation of 1684.

^e The STAFFORD Arms were of frequent occurrence in the Huntingdonshire Churches.

^f Eyre was formerly of Leicester, and a very celebrated Bell-founder: there is some account of him and his family in a curious Dissertation on Bells in Dr. Brewster's Encyclopædia [Article HOROLOGY] from the MSS. of the late Mr. Ludlam.

in 1753—the eighth in 1764. The great bell is 14 feet in circumference, and weighs 3051*lb.*

The Registers of this Church commence in 1691^g: the Vestry Records in 1656.

The Vicarage is estimated at 5*l.* in the Taxation of Pope Nicholas (1291); it stands at 10*l.* in the King's Books. In 1810 it was certified by the Bishop of Lincoln as worth 147*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* It is a discharged Living. In 1753 it was augmented, by Queen Anne's Bounty, with 200*l.* by lot.

VICARS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
ST. NEOT'S.

1. WALTER? was Incumbent of this Vicarage in the year 1225^h.

2. ALAN DE ST. NEOT was presented in 1238, by the Prior and Convent of St. Neotⁱ.

3. LAURENCE DE CLARE was instituted on the same patronage, in 1246ⁱ.

4. WALTER was promoted to this Living in 1264, by the Prior and Convent, on the death of Laurenceⁱ. He resigned, and was succeeded by

5. ROBERT DE PREUS (*alias* ROBERT DE PRATELL?), in 1270, who was also presented by the Prior and Monks of St. Neot'sⁱ.

^g "Baptismes in the yeare of our Lord 1691 and in the third yeare of our Souereign Lord and Lady William and Mary, of England Scotland France Ireland, King, Queen, Defender of the Faith."

^h Cartul. of St. Neot's. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. ff. 59. 60.

ⁱ Institution Rolls and Registers, Lincoln Cathedral.

6. HUGH DE VALLE was put in possession of the Vicarage, in 1279; it having been resigned to the Prior and Convent by Robert de Pratell¹.

7. JOHN (DE ESLINGHAM?) occurs as the Incumbent in 1295^k.

8. HUGH DE EVERTON was appointed Vicar in 1305, by the Convent, on the death of John de Eslingham¹.

9. SIMON DE BLATHERWYK, on the resignation of Hugh, was promoted to the vacant Living by the Prior and Convent of St. Neot; and was instituted 16 Dec. 1312¹. In 1314, he was presented, by the Prior and Convent of St. Neot, to Berton-Benedict, Norfolk^m.

10. JOHN DE SICCA VALLE was presented by the same religious House in 1315; upon the resignation of his predecessor, Simon¹.

11. ROBERT is the next Vicar whose name occurs; but the date of his incumbency is unknown. At his death,

12. WALTER BLOW (*alias* BLOGH) was instituted to this Vicarage, 16 July 1349, on the presentation of King Edward III.¹; the Convent having been deprived of the right of nomination, through the seizure of its property by the Crown in 1337, on account of the French war.

^k Cartul. of St. Neot's, MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV.

¹ Institution Rolls and Registers, Lincoln Cathedral.

^m Blomefield's Norfolk, Vol. IV. p. 51.

13. WILLIAM DE LA MORE was instituted 24 Nov. 1361: he was presented on the death of Walter Blogh, by the Convent^m, whose rights had been restored in the same year on the return of peace. He resigned; having exchanged this Living for that of Wymondham, Norfolk,—the Incumbent of which

14. WILLIAM DE CALYNGTON, was instituted to the Vicarage of St. Neot's 23 Feb. 1382: he was presented by Richard II.ⁿ; St. Neot's, as an Alien Priory, having been again seized by the Crown.

15. WILLIAM RAS, was presented by Richard II. to this Living, vacant by the resignation of William de Calyngton; and was instituted 4 Nov. 1383ⁿ.

16. RICHARD BELL, instituted 27 Nov. 1384ⁿ, and

17. JOHN GEORGE, 18 Dec. of the same year, —were both presented to St. Neot's Vicarage by Richard II.ⁿ; but the cause of vacancy in each case does not appear.

18. THOMAS BRYAN was the next Vicar: he was instituted 8 Oct. 1400; having been presented (on the resignation of John George) by the Prior and Conventⁿ, whose possessions had been restored the preceding year.

19. ROBERT GONYLD DE CROXTON succeeded (on the death of Bryan), 13 March 1418ⁿ. He was

ⁿ Institution Registers, Lincoln Cathedral.

nominated by the Prior and Convent; who, upon his resignation, gave the Vicarage to

20. WILLIAM TYPPER, 22 Oct. 1444°. His death occurred six years after; when the Prior and Convent presented

21. JOHN GYMBER, who was instituted 3 Nov. 1450°.

22. RICHARD OLIVER is the next incumbent whose name is recorded; but his appointment has not been registered.

23. JOHN GRENE, LL. B. succeeded to the Vicarage at the death of Richard Oliver, and was instituted 2 Oct. 1505°. The present parochial Church was rebuilt (finished?) during his incumbency in 1507 (see above, p. 148). In 1512 he was presented to Burton Benedict by the Convent of St. Neot^m.

24. JOHN RAWNDS, the last Prior of St. Neot's, was presented to the Vicarage, on the resignation of John Grene, by Thomas Lynd° (see above, pp. 97. 148.). Prior Rawnds was instituted to the new Church, on 28 Sep. 1512°. In 1518 he was presented, also, to Burton Benedict, by Thomas Lynd on "a grant from the Monastery of St. Neot^m *pro hac vice*."

25. RICHARD PALMER, was presented by Oliver Leder Esq., and was instituted 28 Aug. 1540°, on the death of John Rawnds.

26. JOHN FAKON was promoted to the Vicarage,

4 Feb. 1541, on the resignation of Richard Palmer; having been presented by Philip Clumpe gentleman, and Ralph Smyth.

[26.].....FAUCET?—In August 1556, the Commissioners for Cardinal Pole's Visitation of the Diocese of Lincoln, reported*, that "Faucet, a Priest and Schoolmaster at St. Neot's, who in the time of the schism had married one Elizabeth Williams, fled before his citation." Elizabeth Williams appeared; to whom it was signified that "she was divorced by the authority of the Church."

27. JOHN TYME^p (*alias* TIMMES^q) was instituted 5 May 1562, on the presentation of Queen Elizabeth. At his resignation

28. PETER WHITE (father of the learned Francis White Bishop of Ely^r) was instituted 20 Nov. 1573, having been presented by Queen Elizabeth^p. (See a further account of him, pp. 210—215).

29. WILLIAM SMYTH, M. A. was instituted in May 1583; having been presented by Queen Elizabeth, on the resignation of the former Incumbent^p.

30. PETER WHITE, B. A. was instituted 11 July 1588; having been presented by Queen Elizabeth on the death of the last Incumbent^p.

31. ROBERT DOVE paid the First-Fruits of his Vicarage, 22 Nov. 1617^q.

* See this Volume, Appendix XXVIII.‡

^p MSS. Lansdowne 443. and 444. (Institutions to Crown Livings, temp. Eliz.)

^q First-Fruits' Registers.

^r See below, p. 215.

32. THOMAS PHAGE discharged the First-Fruits of this Living, 2 Dec. 1622^a. He occurs Vicar in 1651^t.

33. JAMES MABINSON, M. A., was instituted 15 June 1670, on the presentation of Charles II.^u

34. SAMUEL TAYLOR was probably his successor; but the institution is not registered.

35. THOMAS SHEPPARD, M. A., instituted 6 Jan. 1690; presented by William and Mary, on the death of Samuel Taylor^u.

36. WILLIAM GIBBS, M. A., instituted 12 Aug. 1707, on the presentation of Queen Anne^u.

37. JOHN HOOPER, B. A., instituted 7 Dec. 1713; presented by Queen Anne, on the death of Gibbs^u.

38. JOHN MAUD, M. A., instituted 14 Dec. 1742; presented by George II., on the death of his predecessor^u.

The three remaining Vicars have all been presented by his present Majesty :—viz.

39. ROBERT HUDSON, LL. B., on the death of John Maud, instituted 20 June 1763^u;

40. JOHN BEWSHER, M. A., on the death of Robert Hudson, instituted 22 Aug. 1796^u; and

41. JOHN ARTHUR, (the present Incumbent), on the death of John Bewsher, instituted 1 Nov. 1806^u.

^t MSS. Lansdowne 459. (A Report to the Committee of Enquiry about scandalous Ministers); "*Mr. Phage, Vicar of St. Neot's, a preaching Minister.*"

^u Institution Registers, Buckden.

BENEFACTIONS AND CHARITIES.

(1.) *For the use of the Parish.*

HENRY CARTER Esq. gave a fire-engine valued at 50*l*.

(2.) *For the Poor.*

1. MRS. JOAN CROMWELL, by will July 1620, gave 2*l*. to the poor, payable out of a close called Wimmels.

2. MR. ROBERT SLADE, by will^a 1622, gave 10*l*.

3. MR. HUGH WYE, by will 1618, gave some parcels of ground, the rent of which is to be laid out in bread.

4. MR. ROBERT PAYNE, by will, 5*l*.

5. MR. JACKSON, by will 1670, 40*l*.

6. MR. ROBERT DOMAN, 10*l*.

7. MRS. ELIZABETH DOMAN, by will 1707, 10*l*.

8. JOHN DRYDEN, Esq., gave 100*l*. to be laid out in an estate, the rent of which is to be given annually to "the poor not taking collection;" and

9. MRS. MARY STRACHIE, 1768, gave 20*l*., with the same limitation.

10. MR. JOSEPH EYRE, 1771, 100*l*., to be distributed in bread on St. Thomas' Day.

^a The Vestry Chest (which has been shamefully robbed of most of its Records) still contains a copy of this will.

(3.) *For the Charity-School.*

1. MR. GABRIEL NEWTON, Alderman of Leicester, by will 1750, gave 26*l.*, out of lands in that County, in trust to the Corporation of that town, payable to the Minister and Church-wardens of St. Neot's, "towards the cloathing, schooling, and educating of 25 boys, of indigent and necessitous parents of the Established Church, between the ages of 7 and 14 years."

2. MR. LOFTUS HATLEY, 1757, gave 100*l.*; and

3. MRS. ELIZABETH BAILEY, 1783, gave 400*l.* in land.

(4.) *For the service and repair of the Church.*

1. SIR JOHN COTTON Bart., 1726, gave 400*l.*, to be laid out in land, for the perpetual Augmentation of the Vicarage.

2. THE PARISH (during the pleasure of its Inhabitants) pays, to the Minister for an afternoon Lecture, 17*l.*; arising from acknowledgments by the Earl of Sandwich and S. Leightonhouse Esq., in lieu of a right of Common on their estates.

3. The VICAR for the time being gives (during his pleasure) 30*s.* to the organist; which sum is an acknowledgment paid by the parish to the Vicar for his right in Jesus' Chapel thrown open to the Church in 1745^b.

4. MRS. ELIZABETH BAILEY, 1783, gave 100*l.*

^b St. Neot's Vestry Records. 12 Nov. 1745.

the interest of which is to be paid annually to the organist.

5. MR. ROBERT SLADE, 1622, gave 10*l*. for the repair of the Church^a.

6. CHARLES BAYNTON Esq., 1712, raised the floor and rails of the chancel, and erected the altar^c.

7. MISS VAUGHAN beautified the chancel and altar.

8. LAWRENCE THOMPSON Esq., gave a silver communion-plate.

9. MRS. ELIZABETH REYNOLDS, widow of Rev. Dr. Reynolds of Little Paxton, gave a silver candlestick for the pulpit.

^c “ Over the vestry door, near the altar, which is very neat, THIS ALTAR WAS ERECTED AT THE SOLE EXPENCE OF COLONEL CHARLES BAYNTON, DRAPER AND CITIZEN OF LONDON, A. D. 1712.” Inscrip. in Hunts. collected by R. S. de W. (MSS. Paddington House).—This inscription was probably effaced by the succeeding benefactor.

§ III.

HAMLETS IN THE PARISH OF ST. NEOT'S.

I. MONKS'-HARDWICK^a, on the N. side of the parish, and two miles from the town, was so called from having been (together with a large tract of the surrounding lands) the property of the Convent. It now consists of a single farm, which stands within a large rectangular area encompassed by a broad and deep moat. An ancient stack of chimnies shews that this has once been no mean residence: it was formerly (1598) the possession and (it is believed) the abode^b of Henry Cromwell Esq., son of Francis Cromwell Esq., of^c Hemingford, and second cousin of Oliver Lord Protector; an adjoining field has once been the garden of the mansion, and is still called 'Cromwell's Close.' The supposed Roman Encampment in this hamlet has already been mentioned (pp. 4—6).

II. WINTRINGHAM, on the E. side of the parish,

^a þeapnð-wic, The *Shepherd's-Village*.

^b MSS. Brit. Mus. Lansdowne 921, p. 82. (Cotton and Astry Notes on Hunts.)—Also MSS. Harl. 759. (Coles Escheats).—Both, however, are ambiguous as to the question whether Henry Cromwell *resided* at Hardwick; though it appears probable that he did.

^c The Escheat says, "*of Hardwick*"; probably he occasionally resided on that property, see the preceding note.—MSS. Harl. 759. (Cole's Escheats, 40 Eliz.)

and two miles from the town, now consists of two farms, UPPER and LOWER WINTRINGHAM. Upper Wintringham was the seat of the Paynes^d; but it may be questioned whether the mansion stood on the site of the present farm, or in a neighbouring field called 'The Birches', where there has evidently been a moated dwelling. The Paynes were here at least as late as 1669^e. Over a chimney-piece in the farm of Upper Wintringham, the following inscriptions^f appear upon oak pannels:—

R. P. E. P.
NOSSE TEIPSVM . MEMENTO MORI.

BEATVS VIR QVI TIMET DN̄. SPALM 112.
AVXILIVM MEVM IN DNO.
VERITAS VINCIT OMNIA.
FELICES TER ET AMPLIVS Q̄S IRRVPTA COPVLA TENET . 1567.
SVR WATER MILD MAY, MDLXVII.
E. R.

Underneath the second series of mottos, are two coats of Arms:

1. Under a Crown, and between the letters E. R. *Quarterly*: first and fourth; 3 *Fleur-de-lis*; second and third, 3 *Lions passant guardant in pale*: for ENGLAND.

^d MSS. Lansdowne, 921, p. 82. (Cotton and Astry Notes on Hunts.)

^e MSS. Harleian, 1457, p. 316. See also p. 165 of this Vol.

^f The precise *arrangement* (not being easily represented without an Engraving) has been neglected.

2. Between two Thistles. *Party per fess nebulée*,
 3 Greyhounds' heads coupée collared and studed;
 a Martlet for difference: for MILD MAY of Chelms-
 ford.

R. P. and E. P. are probably intended for ROBERT PAYNE and ELIZABETH PAYNE. E. R. is clearly for ELIZABETHA REGINA. Why Sir Walter Mildmay's name is associated with that of Payne does not appear.

There was a Chapel here, founded about 1218 by William Brito of Wintringham (see p. 76.); also in the same Chapel was a Chantry for a service to be performed, by Chaplains of the Mother Church of St. Neot's, for his family during his travels^g.

^g Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. f. 59 a. [App. XVI. K.].

§ IV.

HISTORY AND DESCENT OF PROPERTY.

I. THE MANOR OF ST. NEOT'S.

IN the Conqueror's Survey (1086) the manor of ST. NEOT'S was reckoned as one of the manors in EINVLVESBERIE: it belonged to Rohaïs^a, wife of Richard Fitz-Gilbert de Clare; and was probably given her by her father Walter Giffard Earl of Buckingham as her marriage portion. Even so early as the time of the Survey, she seems to have endowed the Priory with a considerable portion of her lands at St. Neot's for the support of the Monks, who held from her 3 carucates in demesne^b, together with a mill, a fishery, and 65½ acres of meadow^a. The manor was then valued at 21*l.*; besides that part which was appropriated to the support of the Monks, and which was worth 4*l.*^a. Rohaïs had in demesne 7 carucates^a. A. D. 1113 she gave "the whole" of her manor "to St. Mary of Bec and to St. Neot of Eynesbury^d." The Priors of St. Neot's, or rather their superiors the Abbots of Bec, remained Lords of the manor till the Denization of the Convent; after which

^a Domesday, Vol. II. f. 207 a. [App. XXI. 33.].

^b Estimating the carucate at 120 acres (the mean value which has been allotted to it), the demesne farm of the Priory in 1086 would be 360 acres: its actual measurement, in 1757, was 364 acres; though it is not certain that they were *exactly* co-extensive.

^d Cartul. MSS. Cott. Faust. A. IV. 45 b. [App. XVI. 32.].

the seignory continued in the Priors till the Dissolution. We find lands at St. Neot's held, under the Prior and Convent, by the following persons :—in 1305 and 1310 by Stephen de Bec^e; 1334 by Robert Richmond and Odo le Clerk^f; and in 1349—1369 by the Lovetots^g. The manor of St. Neot's was in the Crown, during the several seizures of this Alien Priory in time of war (see p. 83.). At the Dissolution, in 1539, it was retained in the King's hands. In 1544 it was held in capite, by Henry Cromwell Esq.^h (afterwards Sir Henry), the son of Sir Richard. In 1548 Robert Spencer possessed 256 acres of land, held in socage, of King Edward VI., as of his manor late parcel of the Monastery of St. Neotⁱ. Thomas Hatley held lands at St. Neot's, in 1550, from Princess Elizabeth^k. John Barnes, in 1556, held lands, at Monks'-Hardwick, from Philip and Mary, by the service of $\frac{1}{20}$ of a Knights'-fee^l. In 1597, Francis Cromwell Esq. of Monks'-Hardwick, died seized of the manor of St. Neot's^m. James I. granted this manor in 1620 to Sir Richard Lucy

^e Escheats, Tower, 34 Edw. I. n. 209. Inquis' ad quod Damnum, Tower, 4 Ed. II. m. 44.

^f Escheats, Tower, 8 Edw. III. p. 2. n. 9.

^g Escheats, Tower, 23 Edw. III. n. 48. and 43 Ed. III. n. 67.

^h Escheats, 36 Henry VIII.

ⁱ Escheats, 2 Edward VI.

^k Escheats, 4 Edward VI.

^l Escheats, 2 and 3 Philip and Mary.

^m Inquis. at St. Ives, 40 Eliz. (Cole's Esch. MSS. Harl. 759.)

Bart., of Broxbourne Herts.". Having passed from him in 1631, by sale, to Sir Sidney Montagu of Hinchinbrook^o, it descended to his son Edward; who was called to Parliament 1660 (by a title derived from his manor) as BARON MONTAGU OF ST. NEOT'S^p. The manor has continued to descend with the title in the House of Montagu; and it now belongs to John the present Earl of Sandwich a minor.

II. THE PRIORY LANDS.

The site of the Priory (49 acres), its demesne farm (364 acres), and the Monastery lands at Hardwick (672 acres), were granted^q by Henry VIII. in 1542 to Sir Richard Williams *alias* Cromwell. Monks'-Hardwick was the property^r of his son Sir Henry Cromwell. In 1597 Francis Cromwell Esq. of Hardwick, died seized of the site of the late Monastery of St. Neot's (called 'the Fermerie'), and 80 acres of pasture at Great and Little Wintringham ('the Birches'), held of the Crown by military service^s: Henry Cromwell

^q Grant in the Rolls' Chapel, Patent Rolls 18 James I. p. 1. n. 8. See also Escheats, 2 Charles I.

^o Deed of Feoffment (in possession of the Earl of Sandwich).

^p This honor was conferred upon him, in consequence of his having brought over the Fleet to Charles II.

^q Grant, in the Rolls' Chapel, Patent Rolls 33 Hen. VIII. p. 6 m. 37.—See, also, pp. 87. 88.

^r Escheats, 36 Henry VIII.—See, also, p. 181.

^s Inquis. at St. Ives 40 Eliz. (Cole's Esch. MSS. Harl. 759.)

Esq. his son succeeded him in his estates. Edmund Anderson Esq., died 1638 seized of the site of the Priory, and the farm of Hardwick, held of the King by military service¹. Sir Stephen Anderson Bart. of Eyeworth Beds. held this estate in the time of Charles II.; but the family becoming extinct in 1773, the property (consisting of 1263 acres) devolved to Charles Anderson-Pelham Esq. afterwards Lord Yarborough. From him it was purchased, in 1793, by O. Rowley Esq.; whose family residence at Priory Hill (built in 1796) commands a pleasing view over the town of St. Neot's and along the vale of the Ouse. Monks'-Hardwick passed, by sale in 1812, to the Devisees of Dr. Moss, Bishop of Oxford, and, by marriage, to John King Esq. The site of the Priory was transferred to the Earl of Sandwich: the Priory farm (the antient demesne of the Convent) is still the possession of O. Rowley Esq.

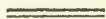
III. THE GREAT TITHES OF ST. NEOT'S.

The great tithes of St. Neot's belonged (by appropriation about 1183) to the Prior and Convent: on 25 May 1537, they were let^a to Thomas Tonney Gent.; being estimated at 17*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* At the Dissolution, they came in reversion to the Crown. In 1566 (being then in the occupation of

¹ Inquis. 14 Charles I. (Cole's Esch. MSS. Harl. 760.).

^a Lease cited in the Ministers' Account of the Priory of St. Neot (Augmentation Office).

Thomas Tonney) they were granted^v, by Queen Elizabeth, to Edward Lord Clinton and Saye. This property was afterwards in the possession of John Grubham Howe^w; but the mode of transfer is not known. Mary Howe, a sole heiress of that family, conveyed it by marriage to Sir George Smith Bart.; from whom it was inherited by his grandson, Sir Robert Howe Bromley Bart. of Stoke Hall Notts., the present possessor.



IV. A PORTION OF TITHES IN ST. NEOT'S.

A portion of tithes^x consisting of the tithe of wool and lambs, (the property of the late Monastery of St. Neot), was given to the Princess Elizabeth before her accession. These tithes were granted^y by the Queen, in 1600, to the Bishopric of Ely, being estimated at 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*; in lieu whereof, an allotment was made at Wintringham, at the enclosure of the parish, 1770.

^v Patent Rolls, Rolls' Chapel, 8 Eliz. p. 7.—By a mistake in the grant, they are stated to have been "parcel of the possession of the late dissolved Monastery of *Ramsey*."

^w Information of Sir Robert Howe Bromley.

^x The title to this portion of tithes, (as well as to that at Weald and Caldecot, p. 135.) and to other property in the parish of St. Neot's, was litigated by Francis Cromwell in 1563; as part of the demesne of the Priory granted to Sir Richard Cromwell by Hen. VIII.—The tithes were determined to belong to the Crown; the other claims were allowed in favour of Cromwell. Rolls, Lord Treas. Rememb. Office, Trin. term 5 Eliz. roll 9.

^y Patent Rolls, Rolls' Chapel, 42 Eliz. p. 9.

§ V.

REMARKABLE EVENTS AT ST. NEOT'S.

I. STORM OF 1465.

A DREADFUL storm passed over this town, on St. Bartholomew's Day, 24 August 1465.—Hailstones 18 inches in circumference are stated, by the credulous Chronicler^a, to have fallen!

 II. FLOOD OF 1579.

Inundations can scarcely be reckoned among the remarkable occurrences in St. Neot's. That which deluged the town in the autumn of 1579 was (it may be presumed) unusually destructive, since it is particularly mentioned by Stowe.—“ In September and October fell great winds and raging floods in sundry places of this realm, where-through many men, cattell, and houses were drowned.....The town of Saint Edes in Huntingtounshire was overflowne suddenly in the night, when all men were at rest; the waters brake in with such violence, that the towne was almost all defaced, the swans swam downe the Market-Place, and all the towne about the boats did float^b.”

^a Baker's Chronicle, p. 250.

^b Stowe's Annals, p. 688. edit. 1631.

III. BATTLE OF 1648.

During the civil commotions in the reign of Charles I., (1648) this town was the scene of a short, but decisive, contest, between the Royalists and the Parliament forces; in which action the former were totally defeated. The following particulars (chiefly gleaned from some rare pamphlets and periodical publications of that period) although, perhaps, scarcely worthy of being redeemed from oblivion as contributions to the stock of general History, are by no means devoid of a local interest.

HENRY RICH, Earl of Holland, took up arms, in favour of the King, in the month of July 1648; this measure, however, had been preceded by so much imbecility^c and hesitation, that the opposite party had full leisure to watch and to anticipate his earliest movements. At Kingston-on-Thames his troops were routed on 7 July, in their first engagement with the Parliament soldiers. A considerable part of his adherents took the road to

^c The Earl of Holland had *previously* acted a wavering part. In 1643 he joined the Parliament;—in the course of the same year he was with the King at Oxford;—and before its close stole away from Oxford, “by the help of a dark night and a good guide.” There is but too much justice in Clarendon’s remark, that he “grew up under the shadow of the Court,” and “desired to enjoy ease and plenty when the King could have neither.” Hist. of Rebellion, Vol. II. P. I. Book VI.; Vol. III. P. I. Book XI.

London, and dispersed in the Metropolis^d. The Earl himself, with about a hundred horse, wandered without purpose or design^d: having passed through Harrow-on-the-Hill^e, St. Alban's, Dunstable, and Brickhill (with the view of proceeding into Northamptonshire) he suddenly shaped his course to the east, and entered St. NEOT's on Sunday evening 9 July.^f

The Royal party, although completely broken at Kingston, appears to have been considerably recruited and strengthened during the retreat to St. Neot's. Various accounts have been given of the number of the Cavalry which entered the town; it appears to have consisted of about 400^g, commanded by good officers, among whom were, the Earl of Holland, the Duke of Buckingham, and the Earl of Peterborough. Colonel Dolbier, an old Dutch officer of great bravery and talents, attached himself to the same cause, and was

^d Clarendon's Hist. of Rebellion, Vol. III. P. I. Book XI.

^e Sanderson's History of Charles I. edit. 1658.

^f "They feared to draw nearer to Northampton lest the Lord Grey should way-lay them as nimbly as his Lordship assisted Col. Rossiter." A Great Victory obtained by Collo-nell Scroope against the Duke of Buckingham at St. Need's in Huntingdonshire, on Munday, July the 10th. 1648. London: printed for the generall satisfaction of moderate men, 1648.

^g The Pamphlet entitled, A Great Victory, &c.....at St. Need's (London, 1648), states the number as "between 400 and 500."—The Moderate Intelligencer (1648) No. CLXXIII., says "300."

appointed Quarter-Master-General: he had formerly served the Parliament, as Commissary-General of the Horse, under the Earl of Essex; but, having been neglected, changed sides^b.

Soon after their arrival, on the Sunday evening, a council of war was called to decide upon the line of march for the morrow. Considerable debate upon the subject occurred; which was ultimately influenced by the opinion of Dolbier; who maintained that St. Neot's might be held against any force which would attack the troops, and who pledged his honor that he would either secure the party against a surprise that night, or meet the death of a soldier in the defence of the town. His proposition having been adopted, the Duke of Buckingham addressed the magistrates and principal inhabitants of St. Neot's as follows:—

“Gentlemen. We come not hither to carry any thing from you; but have given strict orders that neither officers nor soldiers carry what is now yours away. Nor are our intentions to make a new war; but to rescue the Kingdom from the arbitrary power of the Committees of the several Counties that labor to continue a bloody war to destroy you. Our resolution for peace is, by a well-settled government under our royal King CHARLES; and we do bless God that he hath made us instru-

^b Clarendon, Vol. III. P. I. Book XI.

ments to serve the King, the Parliament, and the Kingdom in the way of peace.¹"

The Earls of Holland^k and Peterborough, also, addressed the inhabitants to the same effect. Confident in the strength of their position, and greatly fatigued by their march, the Noblemen and officers retired to rest. Colonel Dolbier, however, kept watch during the whole night; engaged, it may be presumed, rather in anxious thoughts as to the event of his pledge, than in those convivial indulgences with which he had been charged by his enemies^l.

In the mean time, the small party of horse which had pursued the Royalists from Kingston, was joined (on Saturday 8th^m) at Hertford by some troops under the command of Colonel Scroop which were detached from the Leaguer of Colchester. The united force consisted of seven troopsⁿ. At half past two on Sunday afternoon, "one of the Committee of the Militia went him-

¹ A Great Victory &c. at St. Need's. London, 1648.

^k "At which [*viz.* public addresses] the Earl of Holland had better faculty than at the sword." A Great Victory &c. at St. Need's. London 1648.

^l "The Earl of Holland was so weary and shaken in his joynts, that he had a better will to his bed than his horse.... Dolbier watched (and drank sack stiffely) that night." A Great Victory &c. at St. Need's. London 1648.

ⁿ Rushworth's Hist. Coll. 1187. (Dispatches from St. Neot's read in the House of Commons 11 July 1648.).

ⁿ A Great Victory &c. at St. Need's. London 1648.

self with Colonel Seroop to Hitchin"; at which town he procured "six good guides (two of them Captains in the Militia)", who directed the Parliament troops by the nearest way to St. Neot's^o.

All was quiet in the town during the whole of Sunday night: but, about two o'clock on Monday morning (10 July), the outposts gave an alarm of the approach of the Parliament forces. The Noblemen and officers were roused from their sleep by the general shout, "To Horse! To Horse!" The Duke of Buckingham, who slept at a gentleman's house two or three miles from the town^p, was soon dressed and mounted: the other officers speedily assembled; but the Earl of Holland (if the enemy did not slander him) "took more deliberation to dresse him"^q.

^o A Letter [sent from Hertford, 11 July 1648, by Isaac Puller and William Plomer] to the Honorable Committee at Derby-House. London, Printed for Edward Husband, Printer to the Hon. House of Commons, 12 July 1648.

^p The Perfect Weekly Account, No. XVII. (A Letter, read in the House of Commons, from S. T., dated St. Ede's July 10. 1648.)

^q A Great Victory &c. at St. Need's. London, 1648.—It is further stated that the Earl was not dressed when the action was over. There is evidently an allusion to this circumstance (whether fact or calumny) in the following passage, which refers to the Earl's subsequent imprisonment in Warwick Castle,—"where his Lordship may spend the time as well as he can, and *have leisure to repent his juvenile folly, and dresse himself*; and, when he has bemoaned and cried *Peccavi*, perhaps he may be

The Parliament's forlorn (composed of 100 dragoons^o) came to the town's end, [or rather to Eaton-Ford,] a little before sun-rise. The Royalists disputed the bridge warmly; but (on account of the sudden attack) the few who had assembled were soon overpowered, and driven before the Parliament's forlorn into the town^s. The Earl of Holland's forces were then divided into three companies, which were drawn up on the market-hill^s. The main body of the enemy shortly after entered^t with Colonel Scroop; six^u troops were instantly brought into action, in a warm charge against the Royalists. The engagement is said to have been "hot"; but to have lasted only for a short time", when the Royalists were totally routed. Colonels Dolbier and Leg fought with great bravery^u. Dolbier redeemed the pledge which he had solemnly given on the preceding

admitted to London, to make cringes and shew himself before the ladies!" Mercurius Britannicus, No. X. (1648).—Sanderson, also, asserts that the Earl was "not dressed or not up" [Hist. of Charles I. p. 1069. edit. 1658].

^s The Moderate Intelligencer, No. CLXXIV (1648).

^t Whitelock's Memorials, p. 315. edit. 1682.

^u The Moderate Intelligencer, No. CLXXIII. (1648).—A very trifling number of men, however, were lost on either side. The Earl of Holland, when brought to trial, "extenuated his offence as rash, *not much hurtful*, &c.;"—and, on the Scaffold, spoke of the action in the same manner, "God be praised, although my blood comes to be shed here, there was I think *scarcely a drop of blood* shed in that action that I was engaged in".

evening: disdaining an ignominious flight, to which some of his superior officers owed their safety, he maintained a hopeless conflict, and fell manfully whilst charging the enemy^v. The precise circumstances of his death have been variously stated^w. Some accounts record, that he

^v A Great Victory &c. at St. Need's. London 1648.

^w The Account adopted in the text appears to be the best authenticated. Clarendon says that it was *uncertain* whether Dolbier, and the others who fell in this action, were "slain out of former grudges, or that they offered to defend themselves": Oldmixon justly expresses his surprise at this statement, since "it was notoriously known that they fought and were routed" [Hist. Engl. during the reign of the Stuarts, p. 343.].—Whitelock asserts that Dolbier was slain in the inn, where he attempted to defend the Earl of Holland [Whitelock's Memorials, p. 315. edit. 1682.].—Another Writer has given a highly improbable account of his death: "Dolbier, one of the Parliament settes, was killed by one of his Majestic's party; who, discovering his treachery, shot him before he charged the enemy, as being of the two the more dangerous, and first to be dealt withall" [Mercurius Melancholicus, No. XLVIII. (1648.)]. The latter account probably originated in an opinion, which was hastily adopted by some persons, that Colonel Dolbier and the Earl of Holland were merely tools of the Parliament, who excited the Royalists to a premature rising in order the more easily to betray them. A Writer on the King's side observes, that the Earl of Holland's "carriage at St. Need's was such as his honor lies at stake for (if he forfeited it not before); he is hereby, if he be innocent, challenged with a publique clearing of this charge; otherwise, beside future vengeance, let him expect *Dolbier's fate*, and by the same hand: adieu Holland!" [The Decoy, or a Practice of the Parliament's, by the

was mortally wounded^x; others, that he was found slain^y; and it has been added, that the Parliament soldiers, “to express their detestation of his treachery, hewed him in pieces^z.” Colonel Leg was mortally wounded, though he survived the action^a. Sir Kenelm Digby’s eldest son, a Colonel of quality and several other officers whose names were not known^b, together with 14 private soldiers, were slain^a. Many were drowned in the Ouse in flying from their pursuers^a. The Parliament’s side acknowledged only 4 common men killed; besides Colonel Scroop’s Lieutenant-Captain and 3 privates wounded^a.

The Earl of Holland fled to his inn; the great gates of which having been closed, his body guard

perfidie of the Earle of Holland, to discover and destroy the loyall Party. London, July 1648].—Dolbier is acknowledged by his enemies to have fought bravely. As for the Earl of Holland, though he displayed no personal courage, his sincerity in *this* attempt was manifested by his being brought to the block in the following March: his *former* conduct gave some color, however, to this suspicion (see note c, p. 190).

^x Mercurius Pragmaticus, No. XVI. (1648).

^y Perfect Weekly Account, No. XVII. (1648).

^z Ludlow’s Memoirs, Vol. I. p. 256. edit. Vevay 1698.

^a A Further Victory against the Duke of Buckingham by Col. Scroope:...with a list of the Collonels and Officers names kild and taken: also the Earl of Holland his speech to the Souldiers when they took him in his chamber. London, Printed for the general satisfaction of all moderate men, 1648.

^b Rushworth’s Hist. Coll. 1187.

still attempted a defence. Some pistol shots were fired upon the assailants; who soon forced the gates of the court-yard^a, and rushed forward to the Earl's bed-chamber^c. The door having been broken open, the Earl surrendered himself without further resistance, addressing the soldiers in language to the following effect:—

“Gentlemen soldiers! I am a gentleman, and desire that I may be used as a gentleman. I pray you let me have quarter for my life. I am your prisoner, and desire that I may be civilly used, and that you will shew yourselves soldiers and gentlemen towards me. I offer you no opposition, but freely surrender myself your prisoner^a.”

Having been delivered to Colonel Scroop, the Earl was conveyed in a carriage^a from his inn to another part of the town, where he was kept a close prisoner till the pleasure of the Parliament should be known^d.

About 30 other gentlemen and officers were taken prisoners in this engagement; among whom were,—Colonel Leg mortally wounded, Colonel Coventry (with his coach and six horses), Quarter-Master Lieutenant George Wheeler^e, Captain

^c The Earl “was got out of his bed, but had not quite dressed him” [A Great Victory &c. at St. Need's. London 1648]. This appears, however, to be a calumny; for other accounts state that he was present at the engagement. See p. 194, note q.

^d Clarendon, Vol. III. P. I. Book XI.

^e A Further Victory &c. London, 1648.

Lieutenant Till^f, Sir Gilbert Gerrard, Colonel Skeimsher, Lieutenant-Colonel Godwin, Major Holland, and Major Stepkin.^g

In a few days Colonel Scroop received orders, from the Parliament, to send a strong body of cavalry to St. Neot's, to convey in safety the Earl of Holland and five other Field-officers prisoners to Warwick Castle; "being committed thither for High Treason, in levying actual war against the Parliament and Kingdom^h".

The further fruits of this victory were,—120 common men taken prisoners; besides 200 horsesⁱ, several having been left in the town by the fugitives. For greater security, the prisoners were marched into St. Neot's Church; where they remained well guarded till the following day, on which they were sent to Hitchin^k. Even the less important spoils reaped by this success were recorded with an ostentation which might have been expected rather from a more splendid triumph: among these were enumerated—the Earl

^f The Moderate Intelligencer No. CLXXIII. (1648).

^g Rushworth's Hist. Coll. 1187.—A Further Victory, &c... London 1648.

^h Journals of the Commons, Vol. V. p. 633.

ⁱ A Great Victory &c. at St. Need's. London, 1648.—The Perfect Weekly Account, No. XVII., swells the number to 300 prisoners.

^k A Letter to the Committee at Derby House, 11 July 1648.

of Holland's "chirurgeon¹"; most of the Duke of Buckingham's and the Earl of Holland's servants, together with their two sumpters laden with "rich cloathes of the Lords^m"; one-hundred-and-fifty stand of armsⁿ; the Earl of Holland's white charger, with a splendid caparison, and "a rich saddle of 20*l*."^m; 600*l*. in gold taken from the Earl's private chest^m, and his "blew ribbon and his George" taken from his personⁿ; 100 "great saddles"ⁿ; "powder some pounds"ⁿ; besides "silver, and gold, and store of other good plunderⁿ".—The soldiers declared that "they never met with such golden bootie; fine cloathes, gallant horses, and pockets full of coin^o".

The young Duke of Buckingham is said to have been "much amazed at this action¹". As soon as the dispersion of the Royalists became general, he galloped out of the town accompanied by 60 troopers, taking the road to Huntingdon, with the intention of making the best of his way into Lincolnshire^p. Colonel Scroop was unable to com-

¹ The Moderate Intelligencer, No. CLXXIII. (1648).

^m A Further Victory &c. London, 1648.

ⁿ A Great Victory, &c. at St. Need's. London, 1648.

^o Sanderson's Hist. of Charles I. p. 1069. edit. 1658.

^p A Further Victory &c. London, 1648.—Rushworth's Hist. Coll. 1187.—The Moderate Intelligencer, No. CLXXIII. (1648).—The number has been increased to "nigh 200" in the Pamphlet entitled, A Great Victory &c. at Saint Need's London, 1648.

mence an immediate chase ; his men being much fatigued^a by their night-march from Hitchin : a fresh troop, however, which had not been in action in the town, was speedily mounted, and put in close pursuit^r. The Duke soon abandoned his design, and returned privately to London^s, from whence he afterwards escaped to France^t. The Earl of Peterborough fled privately^u on his charger ; but, afterwards, leaving his horse, endeavoured to secrete himself more effectually by assuming the appearance of a plain country gentleman ; in which disguise he was found and taken prisoner by a small party of soldiers^s. While his guards were conveying their prisoner through a town to which they came, a party rose in his behalf, and after a warm contest, effected his rescue^s. He afterwards came, voluntarily, to London^v.

The news of this victory was received with great satisfaction by the Parliament, as completely cutting off the hopes which the Royalists

^a Whitelock's Memorials, p. 315. edit. 1682.

^r The Perfect Weekly Account, No. XVII. (1648).

^s The Perfect Weekly Account, No. XVIII. (1648); a tract containing " some passages " relating to this event " omitted by other pens".

^t Ludlow's Memoirs, Vol. I. p. 256. edit. Vevay 1698.—Sanderson's Hist. of Charles. I. p. 106 .

^u A Further Victory &c. London 1648.

^v Mercurius Pragmaticus, No. XVI. (1648).

had so confidently^w entertained from the rising of the Earl of Holland. A grant of 100*l.* was voted to Quarter-Master Isaac Anthrobus, for his excellent conduct in this engagement^x. A Narrative of the late events “commemorating the many blessings of Almighty God, in owning the Parliament’s cause”, was drawn up by command of the Commons; and having been read in the House was ordered to be printed and published^y. Tuesday 19 July was “set apart for a day of public Thanksgiving^z unto Almighty God for his great

^w The defeat was so sudden, that the Royalists affected at first to disbelieve it. “Another great victory at SAINT EDES. . . they say they have taken My Lord of Holland, and killed Dalbeer: believe them if you see it: the Saints can afford you three dozen of Lies better than one Oath!”—The Parliament-Kite, or The Tell-Tale Bird, No. VIII. Printed in the year of the Saints’ Feer. 1648.

^x “A Letter from Colonel Scroop, from ST. NEOTE’S, of 10^o Julii 1648, giving account of the great victory it pleased God to give the forces under his command, against the Earl of Holland and others, at ST. NEOTE’S; with a list of the Prisoners taken, and of the persons of quality slain; were this day [12 July] read. Ordered: That the sum of 100*l.* be forthwith paid to Quarter Master Isaac Anthrobus, out of the first money that shall be raised out of the estate of the Earl of Holland, as a gratuity for his good service at ST. NEOT’S.” Journals of the Commons, Vol. V. p. 633.

^y Journals of the Commons, Vol. V. p. 639.

^z Upon which a Writer, on the side of the King, ironically remarks,—“The great Victory indeed was, the routing of the

blessings and mercies bestowed upon the Parliament's forces^a": at which time, Mr. Bond Master of the Savoy, and Mr. Obadiah Sedgwick, were ordered to preach before the House, and their Sermons to be printed^b.

Royal Party at Kingston and then again at ST. NEOT'S: succeſſe enough (ſure) to keep the *Thanksgiving Pipes* of the State in tune for a Twelve-moneth at leaſt!" Mercurius Pragmaticus. No. XVI. (1648).

^a Journals of the Commons, Vol. V. p. 633.

^b It is doubtful whether the latter was ever published.—The Sermon by Mr. Bond, on Psalm L. 23., is entitled "ESCHOL, or GRAPES AMONG THORNS" [Small 4to. pp. 41.]. In the Dedication he thus plays upon the title:—"Honourable Senate, I doe at laſt preſent you with that *Cluster of Grapes* which have beene longer in the *Preſſe* than your order doth ſeeme to permit: they are called the *Grapes of Eſchol* [Num. XIII. and XIV.], becauſe that Cluster was both a taſte and pledge of Canaan to the few believing ſpies; but to the reſt, and to all other murmurers, they proved *Grapes of Gall and bitter Cluſters* [Deut. XXXII. 32.].....I know there are not onely a ſort of fierce enemies which like the Turkiſh Ianizaries will be ready to ſtave and breake the caſk, becauſe they are not to ſhare in this wine; and to theſe I ſay, as he in the Epigram, *Rode Caper vites*; but there are alſo many voluntary Reehabites amongſt our friends, which will not touch with theſe Cluſters, becauſe they like not (perhaps) the *Vine* on which they grow. Alas! is there no way yet to make us all of a *diet* at our neceſſary food? Surely hunger and thirſt will bring us to it." Introd. pp. 1—3. The alluſion to the affair at St. Neot's is ſhort:—"Kent hath had a principal ſhare of theſe troubles. And her ſiſter Eſſex is now in the furnace. Beſides Surrey, Middleſex, Hertford, *Huntington*, Suffolke, and Norfolke; if they have not been ſcorched

The Earl of Holland was kept a prisoner at Warwick Castle till the beginning of the following year. On 16 Feb. 1649 he was removed to London, and on 27 Feb. brought to trial. He pleaded that "his crime was not capital but criminal", and that "free quarter had been given him when he was taken at St. Neot's". The Earl persisted in the latter plea to the last, and seems to have considered that he delivered himself prisoner at St. Neot's only on condition that *his life should not be forfeited*. He urged this plea before the High Court on 27 Feb.; again on 3 March; and, on the scaffold,^c "looking over among the people, pointing to a soldier, said, 'This honest man took me prisoner, you little thought I should have been brought to this, when I delivered myself to you *on conditions*.'"

On 7 March, his brother the Earl of Warwick, the Countess of Holland, and several Ladies of rank, petitioned

by the flame, yet have they had some of the smoake in their eyes.....The Lord make the inhabitants of these yet unplundered Counties to be wise for themselves, that they may not cry for a rod or grow sick of their own peace.....There was yet one terrible weapon more, at which our enemies would needs fight it out with our God, and that was open pitched battles, and fixed garrisons.....besides that scene of the Barons' warres, neere Kingstone, and its catastrophe at ST. NEOT'S." pp. 27, 28, 31.

^c The Several Speeches of Duke Hamilton Earl of Cambridge, Henry Earl of Holland, &c. upon the Scaffold. Published by special Authority; London 1649.

the High Court for the Earl's life^d; but only obtained a reprieve for two days^d, an interval which was devoted to the most earnest preparation for death^e. The House of Commons divided on the

^d Whitelock's Memorials, p. 387. edit. 1732.

^e The closing scene of this unfortunate Nobleman's life is very affecting; and, although not sufficiently connected with the immediate subject of these pages to be detailed in the text, will scarcely be deemed intrusive in the margin.—When the High Court opened its commission, he was dangerously ill in his confinement at Warwick Castle; where his Lady watched his sick couch with a tender interest, and petitioned the Court for a little delay, since, from the certificate of his physician, he was unfit to travel. The indulgence granted him was very limited; within less than a month, he was removed to town, tried, condemned, and executed. His Lady followed him to London, and in vain implored mercy for her unhappy partner. Whatever were the frailties of his former life, yet after his condemnation, he spent the two remaining days of his existence in a solemn preparation for the awful hour which awaited him. He refused admission to every friend, except a pious minister, Mr. Hodges, who “only lay in his chamber to discourse with him and to comfort him”. Mr. H. gave the following relation of the interesting occurrences of this short interval. “Between the time of his sentence and execution” the Earl “would not see his Lady, nor any of his children, ‘which,’ he said, ‘would add too much to his sorrow, and discompose his thoughts, which were now only to be set on another world’. The Earl for several days after his sentence was in great perplexity and agony of his thoughts, and said ‘he had not assurance of pardon of his sins, and of the love of God to him, that he was not prepared to die, that Christ would be of no advantage to him’. Mr. H. endeavoured to allay these doubtings, and to comfort the Earl with declaring to him ‘the infiniteness of

question of a pardon, and the Speaker gave his casting vote against this unhappy Nobleman^d. He

God's mercies, and his willingness to pardon all poor sinners that come to him through Christ; that never any who sought the love of God in Christ with a true faith, did ever fail to obtain the assurance of it to his distressed soul'. The Earl desired Mr. H. to pray with him, to seek God for his mercy; and the Earl himself frequently prayed to the same effect with wonderful fervency of expression. Still he continued in a desponding condition, till the day before his suffering, when, immediately after prayer, the Earl with rejoicing told Mr. H. 'that God had heard their prayer; that his spirit was come in to comfort him; that he had prevailed through the strength of Christ over Satan and all his spiritual enemies, and all temptations, that the Lord had given him an assurance of his love in Christ; and that now he was both willing and ready to die.' They went to prayer together to bless God for this great mercy, and to beg the continuance of this frame of spirit to the last. The Earl (who had not slept for several nights before, nor eat his meat) now supped and went to bed with no more disturbance in his spirits, than in his best health, and slept so soundly all the night and this morning that they were much troubled to awaken him. He went to the scaffold without being any whit daunted; and after some discourse with the gentlemen, he shewed himself to the people, who were generally moved with sorrow for the sufferings of so gallant a person, whose mien and comeliness would move compassion". He spoke at the front of the scaffold towards Westminster Hall. He then "turned to the other side of the scaffold, and kneeled down to prayer. He pulled off his gown and doublet, having on him a white satin waistcoat, and put on a white satin cap, and prepared himself for the block, took his leave and embraced with much affection, Mr. H., Mr. Bolton (another minister), his servants, and others; forgave the executioner, and gave him his money 10*l*.

was executed, on 9 March, before Westminster Hall^d.

in gold. Then he laid himself on the block, prayed a while, and gave the sign by stretching forth his arms; on which the executioner severed his head from his body at one blow, which with his body was presently put into a coffin and carried away." [Whitelock's Memorials, p. 387. edit. 1732].—The Earl's Speech on the scaffold, also, seems to shew that he died under the deep influence of Christian principles. [Speeches of Duke Hamilton Earl of Cambridg, Henry Earl of Holland, &c. . . . upon the Scaffold, 9 March. Published by special Authority. Lond. 1649].—Clarendon does not drop a *hint* of any of these interesting circumstances. He could not sufficiently forgive the former political imbecilities of this Nobleman (see this Vol. p. 190, note c), though ultimately a martyr to the royal cause, even to touch with a delicate hand the circumstances of his last moments; but coldly observes that "he was then so weak that he could not have lived long, and when his head was cut off very little blood followed". Clarendon's History of the Rebellion, Vol. III. P. I. Book XI.

§ VI.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.

I. HUGH DE ST. NEOT, a learned Carmelite who flourished in the reign of Edward III., was a native of this town^a. He went to study at Oxford^b; where he acquired such celebrity by his public disputations and preaching, that the degree of D. D. was at once conferred upon him by the University without the usual forms and fees^c. After having quitted Oxford, he took the habit of a Carmelite Friar; retiring to the Monastery of that Order at Hitchin in Hertfordshire. “To him”—(as Fuller remarks, in his usually quaint manner, criticising the proverbially inaccurate Bishop of Ossory)—“to him Bale (though that be the best *Bale* which hath the least Bale and most of Leland therein) giveth this testimony; that, living in the Egyptian darkness, he sought after the light of truth; adding, that he was, ‘*Piscis in palude nihil trahens de sapore palustri*,’ a Fish in the fens drawing nothing of the mud thereof,

^a Leland, De Scrip. Cap. CCCLXXXVII:—Bale, De Script. p. 402. edit. Basle. 1557:—Pitsius, De Reb. Angl. in an. 1340:—Trithemius, Paradisus Carmel. Dec. p. 288:—Tanner, Bibliotheca, p. 419:—Fuller’s Worthies, Huntingdonshire, p. 50.

^b So states Leland; in opposition to Bale and Pits, who assert that he studied at Cambridge. Fuller (probably copying Bale) says that he was of Cambridge.

^c Bale, De Script. p. 402.; but Fuller doubts whether the degree was conferred “without paying of fees or keeping of Arts.”

which is a rarity indeed^d.” He died at Hitchin 8 Sept. 1341, and was buried there^e.—He wrote some theological works, which have probably perished:—

1.^f “Elucubrationes in Lucam Evangelistam, Lib. I.”—*Commencement of the Prologue*^g; “*Nota quod quatuor Evangeliste etsi omnes, etc.*” *Commencement of the Book*^h; “*Beatus Lucas istud Evangelium, etc.*”

2.^h “De Conceptione Mariæ, Lib. I. *Commencement*; “*An Virgo beata fuerit in origine, etc.*”

3.^h “Sermones per Annum, Lib. I.”

4.^h “Quæstiones disputatæ, Lib. I.”



II. SIR JOHN GEDNEY, Lord Mayor of London in 1427 and again in 1447, was son of Mr. William Gedney of this town: “he bore, *Argent, on a fess*

^d Fuller’s Worthies, Huntingdonshire, p. 50.; quoting Bale, De Script. p. 402.

^e So Leland, De Scrip. Cap. CCCLXXXVII.—But 1340 is the year stated in Bale, De Scrip. p. 402:—and Pitsius, De Reb. Angl.

^f Bale, De Scrip. p. 402:—Leland, De Scrip. Cap. CCCLXXXVII.—Tanner, Bibl. p. 419.

^g Tanner Bibl. p. 419., quoting Bale MS. Sloane.

^h Bale, De Script. p. 402.

Azure between 3 Leopard's Heads Gules as many Eagles displayed Or.¹"

III. SIR ROBERT DROPE, Lord Mayor of London in 1474, was son of Mr. John Drope of St. Neot's: "he bore, *Argent Gullée de Poix, on a chief Gules a Lion passant guardant Or.¹*"

IV. PETER WHITE, a pious and learned Divine in the reign of Elizabeth, was Vicar of St. Neot's. —He is the individual obscurely noticed^k by Anthony à Wood and by Bishop Tanner; who appear to have been unacquainted with his personal history, as well as uninformed of his University: it is still uncertain whether he was an Oxford or a Cambridge man. He first occurs in 1566¹ as Curate of Eaton-Socon in Bedfordshire, a village one mile from St. Neot's. In 1573 he was presented, by the Queen, to the Vicarage of St. Neot's; and in 1577 to that of Eaton. He resigned both these Benefices in 1583: it appears, however, (from his signatures in the Registers^l) that he exercised his ministry at Eaton without interruption till 1600; his hand-writing occurs there for the last time in 1606¹. He was re-presented to the Living of St. Neot's in 1588, and

¹ MSS. Lansd. 921. p. 81 (Cotton and Astry Notes on Hunts.)

^k Wood's *Athenæ Oxonienses*, Vol. I. p. 576. edit. Bliss 1813.—Tanner's *Bibliotheca*, p. 762.

^l Eaton-Socon Parochial Registers.

held it till his death, 19 Dec. 1615¹; “having been a preacher for fifty years and more^m.”

Whether PETER WHITE was ever an inhabitant, as well as an Incumbent, of St. Neot's, may be considered as doubtful. Eaton was, certainly, his abode, at least as early as 1575, till 1594, and probably till his decease 1615¹. He had “five sons Divines.” His family appears to have consisted of—1. ROBERT, B. D., Curate of Eaton-Socon from 1600 to 1606¹, appointed Vicar of the same Church in 1616¹; and Archdeacon of Norfolk 23 Sep. 1631; it is probable that he was the oldest son^m;—2. EDWARD^m, the period of whose birth is unknown;—3. FRANCIS, born [at St. Neot's?] 1564 (see below p. 216.);—4. JOHN, born [at St. Neot's?] 1570, (see below p. 223.);—5. WRINGTON, born 30 Oct. 1575 at Eaton, of which village he was Curate from 1606 to 1609¹, as also of Eynesbury from 1605 to 1615^o; he was Archdeacon of Norfolk, 19 Oct. 1629 to 1631;—6. THOMAS, born 12 June 1581¹.—He had also four daughters, 7. PRISCILLA, 8. DOROTHEA, 9. BARBARA, and 10. CONSTANTIA.¹

Wood^k calls Peter White “a severe Calvinist,” and Cole^p conjectures that he was “a Puritan.” That he warmly embraced and defended the great

^m See note p, page 225.

ⁿ Fuller's Worthies, Huntingdonshire, p. 50.

^o Eynesbury Vestry Records.

^p MSS. Cole (Alphabetical Athenæ, Letter W., p. 134).

principles of the Reformation appears by the two following Tracts :—

1.^a “ A Godlye and fruitfull Sermon [*on Revel. I. 12, 13.*] against Idolatrie : VVherein the foolishe

^a This is a very scarce Tract. A Copy is preserved in the Archiepiscopal Library at Lambeth (in a Volume containing other Pieces) under the Class-Mark, 8vo. 37. 8. 13.—This curious Discourse was preached in consequence of a contention between the Protestants and the Papists at Eaton-Socon, on the removal of a Rood-loft from the village Church. A few extracts are subjoined, as containing some topographical allusions.—“To the Reader. Svche hath been the rash and vndiscreet deling of the defendours of the Popishe errours and abuses, reprooued in this little treatise, that after the preaching of this Sermō, diuers slanderous reports were giuen forth of me: whereby I am enforced in the defence of my Ministry, to bring to the view of many, that thing which at the firste I deliuered to a fewe,.....Remember (I pray you) that extraordinary occasion did leade (yea rather drawe) me thervnto. For where I had begun to read and interpret the reuelation of *S. John*, and had in my last Lecture handled some part of this Text here recited, by reason of a contention begun amongst vs, about a remnaunt of a Roodelofte, then standing in the Church where this Sermon vvas preached, (which Roodelofte indeed wanteth nothing of his former state, but only the images and vppermost front. The loft being nine foote in bredth yet standeth, with the beame where the Roode or Idoll did stande, hauing the Tabernacles that sometimes stode vpon the Alters placed from the beame aforesayde, downewarde vnto the loft for a Diuision, and all the neither front downward, remaining as it did In the time of popery.) A monument with small charge and lesse laboure, quicklye repayred for the idolatrie that it was firste appointed vnto. Vpon this occasion

distinctions and false interpretations of the seconde commandement, and other scriptures pretended by the Papists, are plainly and fully confuted: Preached the. XV. daye of Ianuarie. 1581. in the Parrishe Church of Eaton Sooken, within the

(I say) after a shorte recitall of thinges touched in my lecture last before, I tooke matter of the Candlesticks mencioned in the Text to handle the Question then in contention among vs. Wherein I have neither (as I thinke) shewed malice, rashnesse, or yet plaid the part of a mad man, (as it hath pleased some to report of me) but simply and truely, to the conuincing of popish errors and idolatrie, and to the quieting and strenghtning of the weake consciences of the simple of mine owne charge, layed foorth the truth. . . . But such is the difficultie of the reedifying & building vp. . . . of the spirituall house or Temple of the Lorde, but cheefely now in these euill, last, and dangerous dayes. . . . by outward enemies, as the professed Papistes, *Harding, Saunders, Dorman, Heskins, Allen.* &c. with the rable of *Jebusites* (no Ihesuits) subuerTERS, no sauers, doe together with domesticall enemies. . . . busily let and hinder this heauenlye building."—In the body of the Sermon, the Preacher observes; "In this place, the questions of these & such like, hath broke in amōg vs. For the deciding whereof the right reuerend & learned father my L. of L. [*Bishop Cooper*] was determined this day to haue occupied this place, who being letted w^t weightie matters otherwise, cannot now answere your expectations. . . . The question among vs now in contention is of imagery, and whether this part of the Roodelofte yet standing be a monument of Idolatry or not. . . . They say this Roodelofte is no monument of Idolatrie. . . . Nowe enter into the consideration of your owne myndes, and remember with youre selues, whether when you beholde this lofte, you at some time or other, thinke with youre selues, sometime yonder stoode a Crucifixe, *Mary* and *John*, or when your Chyldren doe aske

Countie of Bedforde, by P. W. Minister and Preacher in that place. TERTULLIAN: Idolum tam fieri, quam coli, Deus prohibet. LANCTANTIUS: Non est dubium quin religio nulla sit, vbicunq; simulachrum est. At London Imprinted by Frauncis

you what this Lofte is, or why it standeth there, and is more gaye, then the residue of the Church: Doe you not answere, It was the Roodelofte, there stode the Rood, ~~Mary~~ Mary and ~~John~~ John, and when they saye further, where is now the Roodes, and why is it now taken away, do you not aunswere, They were Idoles, and therefore are taken away. Thus... the cogitation of your own mindes, the questioning of your young ones, the common name whereby it is called, teacheth that it is a Monument of Idolatrie. Further the lawes of this Realme, the iudgemente of our most gracious prince... teacheth vs that this Roodelofte is a monumete of Idolatrie, for euery where in the fyrste yeare of her Gracious reigne, they gaue commaundement to ouerthrowe them in euery place, as may appeare vnto you by SAINT NEOT's your next neighbour, where Doctor Benthā, & Doctor Neuson, and Sergent Fleetwood caused the Roodlofte there to be cut downe, by the seates of the quyer, leuing no memoryal thereof, y^t their doying myght be an example vnto to the residue of the countrey to do the like... Let me say vnto you as Moyses at the red Sea sayde to the Israelits... ye see the Egipcians now, but after this day shall yee see them no more, be not offended, quiet your myndes, ye now see this monumēt that hath so troubled vs, but after this, the fourme and fashiō shall ye see it no more, the Lorde will so deale with vs, assure your selues... But some will saye this is verye hote, and vncharytable, so openlye, and so sharpelye to reprove, it woulde [*should*] haue bene more mylde, and priuate: God is my witnesse I wish no mannes fynger to ake, but onelye in the feare of God reprove not the persons, but reprove and conuince the Errors &c."

Coldocke. 1581."—8vo. [*size of 12mo.*] containing 22 leaves, **Black-letter**.

2.^r "An Ansvveare vnto certaine crabbed Questions pretending a reall presence of Christ in the Sacramente: Latelie propounded by some secret Papist, to the great troubling of the consciences of the simple, Together with a Discouerie of the Iesuiticall opinion of Iustification, guilefully vttered by Sherwyne^s at the time of his execution.

^r A Copy of this rare Volume was in Mr. Herbert's Collection, [Ames' *Typographical Antiquities* by Herbert, p. 1172, edit. 1786]. Another copy is in the Public Library Cambridge, in a Volume of scarce Tracts, under the Class-Mark, Ff. 16. 72. —The "Discouerie," is a valuable Tract: it contains a scriptural and luminous discourse on the doctrine of Justification.

^s "Raph Sherwin," a seminary Priest, "one of the foure executed at Tiburne for treason on Friday the first of December [1581]. . . . purchased by his deepe & desperate Hipocrisie a commendation aboue the rest, as though there had bin wrought in him before his death, some tast of Christ and true religion. But all was subiltie & hipocriticall hipocrisie, to leade the people from the detestation of his popery to a liking or a more tollerable iudgement thereof. . . . Therefore one Master Edward Fleetwood, a godly learned Preacher, and J, thought good by conference with Some of his fellowes yet remaining in the Tower, to learne out by them his meaning in the good forme of wordes by him at his death vttred. . . and hauing cōferēce with James Bosgraue, John Hart, & Henrie Orton, we found. . . . Sherwin meant not. . . . to retract any thing from the grossenes of Poperie, but guilefully and subtilly to vpholde the whole." White's *Discouerie* &c; Pref.—See, also, *Strypes Annals*, Vol. III. p. 84.

Gathered & set foorth by PETER WHYTE, very necessary & profitable for this daungerous time. Seene & allowed according to the Queenes Maiesties Iniunctions.”—*A Fleur-de-lis, with the motto, “¶ VBIQVE FLORESCIT.”* “London Imprinted by John Wolfe and Henry Kirkham, & are to be sold at his shop at the little north doore of S. Paule”. *Dedication 4 leaves; Tract 41 leaves. 8vo. [size of 12mo.]*

The “Disconerie,” has a separate title page, with the same colophon. At the end, “London Imprinted by John Wolfe 1582,” *Preface 6 leaves; Tract 41 leaves. 8vo. Black-letter.*

V. FRANCIS WHITE, D. D. Bishop of Ely, and son of the above^t Peter White, is said to have been a native of St. Neot’s^u. There is strong reason, however, for doubting the accuracy of this statement. It is more probable that he was born

^t FRANCIS WHITE is made the son of HUGH WHITE Esq., in the very imperfect and inaccurate pedigree of WHITE in Thoresby’s Leeds, p. 257. edit. 1715.—Hugh White was probably the uncle instead of the father.

^u On the authority of his nephew, Fuller states, “FRANCIS WHITE was born at St. Neot’s, and not in Lancashire as I and others had been misinformed:” he adds, however, a note of doubt, in the margin; “*sed quære.*” [Fuller’s Worthies, Huntingdonshire, p. 50.]—Browne Willis states positively that he was born at St. Neot’s. [Willis’ Cathedrals, Vol. III. p. 363].

at Eaton-Socon^v. His Father, (as has been observed above p. 211.) was certainly resident at Eaton as early as 1575; but whether his abode was in that village, or in St. Neot's, at the period of the birth of his son Francis, cannot be ascertained^w.

FRANCIS WHITE was born in 1564^v. If it be doubtful whether he was a native of St. Neot's, it is certain that he received his earliest education at a School in that^v town (whilst his father held the Vicarage); from which he was sent to Caius College Cambridge, in 1579, at the age of 15^v. Whilst at the University, he applied to his theological studies with great diligence. After having proceeded to his degree, and received holy Orders, he met with a kind patron in Lord Grey of Groby; by whom he was presented to the living of Broughton Astley, in Leicestershire^y.

^v Such is the testimony of the Admission-Book of Caius College, Cambridge:—" *Whyte Eps Eliens'*. FRANCISCUS WHITE, filius Petri White Concionatoris, natus in Eton juxta St. Neotts in Com̄ Bedford', educatus in ludo literario St. Neotts, annorum 15, in nostrum Collegium admissus est Pensionarius minor literarum Græcarum 20 die Martii 1578^o [1579]. Pro eo fidē jubet Mr. Stephanus Perse A. M. et hujus Collegii Socius. Solvit pro ingressu 3s. 4d."

^w The parochial Registers of Eaton-Socon commence in 1566, only two years later than the birth of Francis White;—and those of St. Neot's, more than a Century after, in 1692. The question cannot, therefore, be resolved by reference to these documents.

^y Fuller's Worthies, Huntingdonshire, p. 50.

From that retired country village, “(why should a candle be put under a bushel?), he was brought to be Lecturer of St. Paul’s in London, and Parson of St. Peter’s in Cornhill^y.” In the year 1622, at the age of 58, he was promoted to the Deanery of Carlisle^z; in 1625 he was appointed Senior Dean of Sion College^a. In 1626 (soon after the publication of his learned Controversy with the Jesuit Fisher) he was advanced to the Bishopric of Carlisle^b; he was translated to Norwich in

^z Dr. White was appointed, by James I., to watch the Papists in their attempts to ensnare the Countess of Denbigh; the Deanery of Carlisle is said to have been his reward.

^a Bentham’s Ely, p. 200.

^b This promotion was thought, by many, to have been a reward for his assistance in the proceedings of the High-Commission Court, and for his support of High-Prerogative principles. The aspersions of some stated that he had offered a bribe for his place. “The other Bishopricks are destined to men of corrupt minds: Dr. White is Bp. of Carlisle” [Letter from Mr. Cook to Abp. Usher, 30 Nov. 1626,]. “Dr. White, now Bp. of Carlisle, hath sold all his books to Hills the Broker: his pretence is the charge of carriage so far by land, and the danger by water: some think he paid for his place: I did hear of his censure of your Lordship, which I would not have believed, but that I heard it credibly reported about the time of your Lordship’s departure hence.” [Letter from Dr. Ward to Abp. Usher 13 Feb. 1627]. There is an allusion to this circumstance in “Sir Walter Earle his paraphrase fitly spoken” (11 Feb. 1628) “concerning Bp. White in a former Parliament;

Qui color ALBUS erat nunc est contrarius Albo,
in English thus, The colour that was WHITE is now turned
Blacke, for Bp. WHITE hath sold his Orthodox Bookes and
bought Jesuits’, that Bp. WHITE may go arm in arm with Mon-

1628^c. In 1631 he was removed to Ely^d. On 17 March 1632 he went to Cambridge for the purpose of consecrating^e the Chapel of Peter House: upon that occasion, the members of Gonville and Caius College invited the Bishop to an entertainment; "where with a short speech, he encouraged the young students to ply their books, by his example, who, from a poor Scholar in that house, by God's blessing on his industry, was brought to that preferment^f."

Dr. White engaged deeply in controversy with the Papists. "He had several solemn disputations with the Jesuites (Father Fisher and others); and came off with such good successe, that he reduced many seduced Romanists to our Church. He often chose," continues Fuller^f, "Daniel Featly D.D. his assistant in such disputes; so

tague" Bp. of Norwich. [Printed at the end of Sir F. Seymor's Speech in Parliament against the Toleration of Jesuits, 1641].

^c "In the heads of Articles to be insisted on in an intended declaration of the Commons, and agreed to in a sub-committee for religion 25 Feb. 1628, complaint was made of the growth of Arminianism, and that those persons who maintained that sort of doctrine were preferred: one instance, among others, was in the case of the late Bp. of Carlisle, who, since his Arminian Sermon on Christmas-day foregoing preached at Court, was advanced to the See of Norwich." Burn's Hist. Cumberland, Vol. II. p. 286.

^d Godwin, *De Præsulibus*.

^e For an account of this Consecration, see MSS. Brit. Mus. Cole Vol. XXIV. pp. 17—27.

^f Fuller's *Worthlies*, Huntingdonshire, p. 50.

that I may call this prelate and his Doctor, Jonathan and his Armour-Bearer, jointly victorious over the Romish Philistines." An outline of one of these public disputations, held in 1623 by Dr. White and Dr. Featly, against the Jesuits Father Fisher, and Father Sweet, has been preserved by Arthur Wilson in his History^s of James I; to which the more curious reader is referred.

In the latter part of his life, he gave great offence to the Presbyterians by the intolerance of his sentiments, and by his conduct in the High-Commission Court. The Dedication and the latter part of his "Treatise on the Sabbath" (published in 1635) were thought particularly illiberal^h.

^s Published in Kennet's Hist. Engl. Vol. II. p. 770.

^h "John White Bp. of Winchester . . . had this disticke bestowed upon him by John Parkhurst;

'CANDIDUS es recte, nec CANDIDUS es. Rogitas cur?

'NOMINE CANDIDUS es; moribus at NIGER es!'

"And may we not now say the like of some of our *Candid* Prelates? . . .

Qui color ALBUS * erat nunc est contrarius Albo, that they have in a short time altered their colour for the worse, and (like the *Albanes* of whom Pliny writes) grown Blacke in their old age, when as they were WHITE in their youth, contrary to the custome of all other people." Prynne's Quench-Coale pp. 287, 288. edit. 1637: in the Introd. p. 32. he alludes to his "Treatise on the Sabbath," as containing, "in

* "See 'Orthodox Faith' &c., to compare his and his brother's doctrines and positions there defended with those since mentioned in the last Treatise" on the Sabbath, "and in the High-Commission Court."

In Feb. 1637-8, at the age of 74, Bishop White died at his palace in Holborn: he was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral with much pomp, but without any sepulchral memorialⁱ. The following works attest his theological learning:

1. "The Orthodox Faith and Way to the Chvrch explained and iustified: in answer to a popish Treatise, entituled, WHITE died BLACKE; wherein T. W. P. in his triple accusation of D. White for impostures, vntruths, and absurd illutions, is proued a trifler; and the present controuersies, between vs and the Romanists are more fully deliuered and cleared. By FRANCIS WHITE, Doctor in Diuinitie and Deane of Carlile, elder brother of Doctor John White."—*1st edit. 4to. pp. 405. Lond. 1617.—2d edit. Folio pp. 190. Lond. 1624.*

2. "A Replie to Iesuit Fishers answere to certain questions propounded by his most gracious Ma^{tie}. King Iames. By FRANCIS WHITE D. of Div. Deane of Carlile Chaplaine to his Ma^{tie}." *Folio pp. 592, London 1624. (With a Portrait, see below, p. 223.)*

hope of preferment, many Arminian and Popish doctrines."—See also Huntley's Breviate of the Prelates' Usurpations, p. 144, and Introd. p. 159, edit. 1637.—Fuller's Church Hist. Book X. p. 144.—MSS. Brit. Mus. Cole (Alphab. Athenæ, Letter W., p. 2 b.)

ⁱ Godwin de Præsulibus.

The title contains some curious mottos and devises, viz.—a hand drawing a net full of frogs, PISCATORIS RETE HABET RANAS, (The *Fisher's* net has frogs):—a female figure emblematical of Truth, her head surrounded by a glory, a crown and bible in her right hand, a palm branch in her left; VERITAS UNIVOCÆ; VERITATĒ APERIT DIES:—a female figure emblematical of Falshood, a cloud on her head, a crown and sceptre at her feet, a mask in her left hand, and a crocodile on her right arm; MENDACIÆ ÆQUIVOCÆ; ERROR CÆCUS ET FALLAX; BEATI PACIFICI.

3. “A Treatise of the Sabbath-Day. Containing A Defence of the Orthodoxall Doctrine of the Church of England, against Sabbatarian-Noveltie. By Dr. FR. WHITE, L. Bishop of Ely.” 1st edit. 4to. pp. 311, London 1635.—2d edit. 1635.—3d edit. 1636.

4. “An Examination and Confutation of a lawlesse Pamphlet intitvled, A briefe Answer to a late Treatise of the Sabbath-Day: Digested Dialogue-wise, betweene two Divines A and B.” By Dr. FR. WHITE, L. Bishop of Ely.” 4to., pp. 162. London 1637.

There are Portraits of Bishop White :

(1.) By T. Cockson, 4to.; prefixed to his Reply to Fisher. It is encircled by the following inscription: EFFIGIES DOCTISSIMI VIRI DNI. FRAN-

CISCI WHITE, S. T. PROFESSORIS ET ECCLESIE CATH'IS CARLEOLENSIS DECANI A° ÆTA. 59. In different parts of the border appear the mottos, NULLA DIES SINE LINEA,—INDUSTRIAM ADIUUAT DEUS,—MERE BUNT PISCATORES [the *Fishers* shall mourn], ISAI. xix. 8.,—ANNO 1624,—and the Arms of White, viz. *Gules, a Chevron between 3 Boar's Heads coupée Argent.* Beneath is the motto,

Wisdome and grace see in that modest looke,
Trueth's triumph, errors downfall in this booke.

(2.) *By G. Mountin, 4to., London;* with the Arms, and the following lines:—

Quid trepidas Pietas? jam festos indue Vultus,
Nec Latiae timeas guttura sæua Lupæ:
Adstat ab excelso Vindex demissus Olympo,
Qui tibi, quique tuis Cuspis & Ægis erit.
Vt Vultus, mores si picta tabella referret,
Deficeret precio, Ditis, & arca Jouis.

(3.) *Another in 4to.;* published in “Fitzer, Viror. Clar. Imag., Francof. 1632.” It appears to be an imperfect copy of No. (2.); and has the two last lines of the same motto.

VI. JOHN WHITE, D. D., is said to have been a native of St. Neot's^k. The place of his birth is

^k On the authority of his son, Mr. White, a Druggist in London; quoted (with a note of doubt) in Fuller's *Worthies*,

involved in the same uncertainty which has been already mentioned with respect to his brother Francis (pp. 216, 217.). It is probable that he was born at Eaton-Socon^l, and educated in the Grammar-School of St. Neot's^m. At the age of 16, he was entered a Sizar at Caius College, Cambridge^l. "He did not continue long in that University, but the University continued long in him; so that he may be said to have carried Cambridge with him into Lancashire (so hard and constant in his study) when he was presented Vicar of Eccles therein. Afterwards Sir John Crofts [*of Saxham*], a Suffolk Knight, being informed of his abilities, and pitying his remote living on no plentiful benefice, called him into the South; and was the occasion that King James took cognizance of his worth, making him his Chaplain in Ordinary. It was now but the third moneth of his attendance at Court, when he sickened at London in Lombard-street, dyed [at the age of 45], and was buried in the Church of St. Mary Woolnoth, 1615, without any other monuments save what his learned works have left to

Huntingdonshire p. 51. The same assertion is made in Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.*, Vol. III. p. 238. edit. 1813.

^l " *White* JOHANNES WHITE, filius Petri Concionat', natus in Eaton in Comitatu Bedford', educatus ibidem in ludo literario ejusdem oppidi, adolescens annor' 16, admissus est Mediastinus sive pauper Scholaris Mri. Doctoris Perse M. D., 15°. Feb. A°. Dni. 1585, qui pro eo fidē jubet. Solvit pro ingressu 12d."

^m The Admission Book of Caius Coll. says, of *Eaton*; but compare p. 217 note v with the preceding note of this page.

posterity; which all who have either learning, piety, or ingenuity, do, yea must, most highly commend.”ⁿ He died in great poverty^o; leaving

ⁿ Fuller’s Worthies, Huntingdonshire, p. 51.

^o His Will contains little besides a protestation of his religious sentiments (prefixed to his “Workes”), some pious counsel to his family, and grateful acknowledgements to his friends. A few extracts are subjoined.—“To Iohn J say, J have devoted you to the ministry, and have spent much to fitt you thereto. . . . Be kynde to yo^r poore blynde sister, in whome there hath alwaies [*been*] muche grace. To Christian[*a*] J saye, My poore blynde wenche, God hauinge endued thee wth many guifts of nature, whereby thou wast the stay and comfort of o^r house, lately tooke away thy eies with little hope of recouerie, but beare what God hath sente, and patiently renounce the world, God shall give thee lighte to see Him that dwelles in lighte inaccessible. . . . Farewell my whole familie, and remember the instructions wherein J have brought you uppe. Farewell my paryshe; remember my preaching, and life amongst you; maintaine loue and charity; and put away thatt cursed malice w^{ch} J found amongst you. . . . Farewell my good Lorde Wentworth, and yo^r noble Ladye; my Christian patron S^r Iohn Crofts, and yo^r deare Ladye; who first of all brought mee into Suffolke, to a fayre and the best Liuyng that either you had to giue; you sent for mee, when J was vnknowne to you, out of a farre country, where J lived in those distresses w^{ch} J was neuer able to looke through to this daye; you furnished me wth bookes fitt for my studies; &c. . . . Farewell my good Father who hauinge beene a Preacher (if J be not deceiued) these 50 yeares and more, besides yo^r admirable paynes and industry in all the rules left vnto all ministers by St. Paule, you have brought up 5 of yo^r owne able to preache profitably, yo^r oldest sonne in his owne country where he lives, beinge knowne for gravity and learninge to be inferior to fewe in this Kingdome; God reward yo^r love and piety to yo^r children, and bringe you wth all peace vnto your grave. . . . J

seven children^o; John, Christiana, Fleetwood, Edward, Richard, Francis, and Peter. His aged father was living, Vicar of St. Neot's, at the time of his decease^o.

A portrait of John White is prefixed to his "Workes," with the following inscriptions: EFFIGIES DOCTISSIMI VIRI DOMINI IOHANNIS WHITE, S. THEOL. PROFESS.;—The Arms of White, with the motto SI NON NODIE QUANDO;—

En micat vt vultus IOHANNIS gratior ALBI!
 (Invida vel rumpas ilia LIVOR ATROX)
 Quem modo Cælator cum sculpsit arte suprema,
 Vt referat vitam mortua imago Viri:
 Forma tamen mentis quo plus diuinior oris,
 Doctius hoc SCRIPTIS pingitur Ipse suis.

R. B.

The following works proceeded from his pen:—

1. "The Way to the true Chvrch: wherein the principall motives perswading to Romanisme, and Questions touching the Natvre and authoritie of the Church and Scriptures, are familiarly disputed, and driuen to their issues, where, this day

am scarce able to say any more, greater occasion calls me of, my owne weakness and more necessary meditation with God breakes me of, and have taken me by the hand, with whome I truste to bee shortly, hauing a steadfast perswasion, through fayth in Christ, that I shall see him, and enioy him, and liue wth him for euer. Which he graunte of his abundant mercie, who will haue mercie on whome he will haue mercie, and will shew compassion on whome he will shew compassion. Amen."—Registers in the Prerogative Court, SOAME 17.

they sticke betweene the Papists and vs: Contrived into an answer to a Popish Discourse, concerning the Rule of Faith, and the Marks of the Church. And published to admonish such as decline to Papistrie, of the weake and vncertaine grounds, whereupon they haue ventured their soules. Directed to all that seeke for Resolution: and especially to his louing countrimen of Lancashire. By IOHN WHITE, Minister of Gods word at Eccles." *1st edit. 4to. pp. 454. London 1608.*—*2d edit. 4to. pp. 456. London 1610. . . . edit. 4to. pp. 456. London 1616.*—*5th edit. (in the "Workes") folio. pp. 239. London 1624.*

2. "A Defence of the way to the true Chvrch, against A. D. his Reply. Wherein The Motives leading to Papistry, And Qvestions touching the Rvle of Faith, The Avthoritie of the Church, The Succession of the Truth, and The beginning of Romish Innouations, are handled and fully disputed. By IOHN WHITE, Doctor of Diuinity, sometime of Gunwell and Caius Coll. in Cambridge." *1st edit. 4to. pp. 557. London 1614.*—*. . . edit. (in the "Workes") folio pp. 316. London 1624.*

3. "Two Sermons: The former [on 1 Tim. ii. 1.] delivered at Pavls Crosse the fovre and twentieth of March, 1615, being the anniuersarie commemoration of the Kings most happy succession in the Crowne of England. The latter [on 1 Tim.

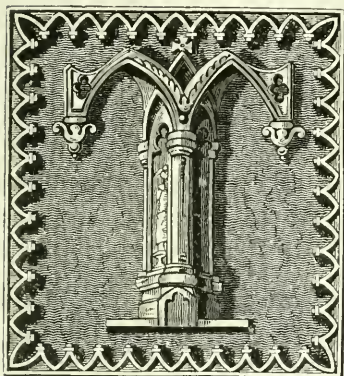
vi. 17.] at the Spittle on Monday in Easter weeke, 1613. By IOHN WHITE D.D."... *edit.* 4to. pp. 85. London 1615.—... *edit.* (in the "Workes") folio pp. 36. London 1624.

The three preceding are published in one Volume, entituled,

"The Workes of that learned and reuerend Divine, JOHN WHITE, Doctor in Diuinitie." Folio pp. 239, 316 and 36. London 1624. (*With a Portrait; see above, p. 226.*).

CHAPTER V.

Topographical Sketch of St. Neot's Cornwall.



THE Cornish (like the Huntingdonshire) parish of St. NEOT's, being closely connected with the narrative of the Saint from which it derived its name, demands some further notice. It was not only the site of the Hermitage and College of Neot; but, also, of a Church originally erected by, and afterwards dedicated to, the Saint. The History of the former has already been given (pp. 20—46.); an account of the latter will, almost exclusively, occupy the present Chapter.

The Cornish village (in singular correspondence with the Huntingdonshire town) has had three appellations. Until the close of Century IX., it was called HAM-STOKE (p. 29, note f.); from that

period till the Conquest, or later, it had the name NEOT-STROKE; it was afterwards changed to its present denomination, St. NEOT's, or more commonly St. Neot. It is situated on a small stream, called St. Neot's-River (a branch of the Fowey), which rises in Dosmerry-Pool in this parish.

There are 9 manors.—1. St. Neot [Neotestov^a, and Nietestou^b of the Norman Survey]; 2. St. Neot-Barrett; 3. Fawitone; 4. Trenay; 5. Pengelly; 6. W. Draynes; 7. Trevegoe; 8. Carbilialia, or Carbarrow; 9. Treverbyn, now only known by a small tenement of that name.—To trace the descent of property^c in this parish, does not fall within the plan of this Volume.

In 1811, the population was estimated at 1041 persons, 509 males, and 532 females; the number of families being 192, and of inhabited houses 165.

The celebrated JOHN ANSTIS, Garter Principal King at Arms, was born at St. Neot's on 28 Sep. 1669.

One mile N. E. of Dosmerry-Pool, are some remains of a Chapel dedicated to St. Luke; the ancient font still remains.

^a Westminster Domesday, Vol. II. f. 121 a. [App. XXX. A.].

^b Exeter Domesday, f. 207 a. [App. XXX. B.].

^c See Lysons' Magna Brit., Cornwall, pp. 224—246.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH.

It has been already mentioned (p. 45.) that, about the middle of Century IX., Neot erected a Church here on the site of the more antient Chapel of St. Guerir;—and that the Edifice was rebuilt, on a larger scale, about 884.

In the reign of Henry I. the Advowson was given by William Earl of Moreton to the Priory of Montacute^d in Somersetshire, to which House the Rectory was appropriated. The present Edifice was erected in the time of Edward IV. The following inscription, in rude characters, appears upon the roof near the W. end of the nave;

an	no	dn	m	cccc
c	di	ff	ca	ta
xx	x	hcc	do	m ^o

there has been a dislocation of the letters, and a transposition of the lines; the inscription having been originally,

anno dn mccccxxx hcc dom^o edificata

from which it seems clear that the greater part, if not the whole, of the present Edifice was erected in 1480^e. It is a handsome Building; but the S.

^d Dugdale's Monasticon, Vol. I. p. 670.

^e Mr. Whitaker thinks the date is intended for 1530 [mccccxxx]. He is disposed to limit the reference of this date to the *tower*; for which there does not appear the least reason.

side is in a much more elegant style than the N., which perhaps may be considered as of an earlier date. The pinnacles of the buttresses between the S. windows are elegant, and, ascending considerably above the parapet of the roof, give the exterior an airy appearance. At the W. end rises a neat tower, with a peal of 6 bells; it is built of white granite; the altitude, to the summit of the pinnacles, is 71 feet. The extreme length of the Church, from the W. door of the tower to the E. window, is 116 feet; the breadth is 55 feet.

The interior consists of a nave and two side aisles. The S. aisle is separated from the nave by 7 uniform pointed arches. The N. aisle has 6 arches, corresponding with those opposed to them in the S. aisle; the seventh, or most Eastern, is an ogree arch (upon a lower pitch), which was probably cut out of a Saxon arch, having belonged to a more antient structure, and having formed the entrance to a Chapel where the remains of Neot were originally preserved (see below.).

The roof is a semicircular vault of oak. It is ornamented with lozenges, containing knots, flowers, and initial letters: in the western lozenge is the date 1593.

The greatest ornament of this Church, is its beautifully stained glass. Of this a considerable

His strange position that the body of the *Church* was built in 1199, is nothing but a wild conjecture, unsupported by the style of its Architecture.—See Whitaker's *Life of Neot*, pp. 191—203.

portion remains, although in a mutilated state. It is to be lamented that many of the legends of these richly "storied windows" have perished, for want of having been collected earlier.

NORTH AISLE.

These windows are inferior, in their architectural construction, to those of the S. aisle. Each consists of four low lights, with trefoiled heads, united under a canopy of slight curvature.

I. The W. window is altogether mutilated.

II. The 1st from the W. was glazed at the expense of the young men of the parish ;

*Ex sumptibus Jubenum hujus Parochiæ hanc
Fenestrā facientiu.*

It details the legend^f of ST. NEOT (pp. 31—37.), the story being painted in twelve compartments :

1. NEOT placing a Crown on the head of Ethelbald, (p. 23.):

Hic tradidit Coronam Ffr̃i suo juniori.

This is the only legend depicted in this window which is not contained in the MSS. Lives of the Saint (see Appendix, No. I.).

^f Published in 1786 by Rev. Mr. Forster, Rector of Boconnoc, in "Some account of the Church and Windows of St. Neot's in Cornwall" (4to. pp. 26.); with a coarse outlined-Engraving.

2. NEOT kneeling, between a Monk and an Abbot (pp. 23, 27.):

Hic perfectus est Monachus.

3. NEOT reading in a pool, a doe at his feet, a huntsman delivering up his horn (p. 35.):

Hic sedens in Fonte. Cerbā liberā fecit.

4. NEOT receiving instructions from an Angel, respecting 3 fishes in his pool (p. 32.):

Hic tres Pisces in Fonte inbenerat revelatione angelica.

5. NEOT desiring Barius to bring him a fish from the pool [nearly effaced]:

Hic iubebat sibi Piscem afferri.

6. BARIUS broiling a fish for his master (p. 33.):

Hic Barius.

7. BARIUS bringing two fishes to NEOT (p. 33.):

Hic Barius portabat duos Pisces in Disco.

8. BARIUS restoring the two fishes to the pool (p. 33.):

Hic Barius mittebat illos duos Pisces iterū in Fontē.

9. A thief driving away the oxen from the Monastery (p. 36.):

Hic Boves furto sublati fuerunt.

10. A Monk ploughing with stags:

Hic jugum imponebatur Cervis vice Jumentorum.

11. The thieves restoring the oxen (p. 36.):

Hic Fures. Boves restituerunt. qui isto. . . .

12. NEOT kneeling to receive the Pope's blessing (p. 29, 30.):

Hic Roma a Papa benedictionem accepit.

III. The 2d from the W., was made in 1529, at the expense of the young women of the parish :

*Ex sumptibus Sororum S̄ci Neot̄i quæ istam
Fenestram fecerunt āno D̄ni Millessimo quingentes-
simo viceesimo nono.*

In the lower compartments are 20 small female figures, grouped in fives. In the four lights, are,—

1. ST. PATRICK [Petrock?] with a crozier and mitre :

S̄t̄e Patr̄ice ora pro nob̄is.

2. ST. CLERE with a crozier and mitre :

S̄t̄e Clere ora pro nob̄is.

3. MANCUS, Bp. of Cornwall^s, with his crozier and mitre :

S̄t̄e Mance ora pro nob̄is.

4. A crowned figure sitting, supporting (in the fold of his robe) 10 heads :

S̄t̄e. cum ōibus S̄t̄is ora pro nob̄is.

IV. The 3d from the W., was glazed at the cost of the married women of the parish in 1530 :

*Ex sumptibus Uxorū hujus Parochiæ e p̄te
occidentali S̄ti Neot̄i istam facientium Fenestram bi-
treā āno D̄ni Millessimo quingentessimo viceesimo
tricesimo.*

The lower compartments have 20 small female figures, grouped in fives. In the 4 lights appear,—

1. A figure displaying a book :

S̄t̄a Mariā ora pro nob̄is.

^s Whitaker's Cathedral of Cornwall, Vol. II. p. 213. Mancus was buried at the neighbouring Laureath near Fowey.

2. ST. MABENA^h, her hands clasped on her bosom, a dead child in her lap :

Sā Mabena ora pro nobis.

3. A Saviour with clasped hands :

Jesu Fili Dei miserere.

4. Saint Mybbardⁱ holding a head in his right hand :

Sic Maberedc ora pro nobis.

V. The 4th from the W., was painted and given by Ralph Harris,

Ex dono et sumptibus Radulphi Harys et ejus labore facta fuit.

It has four lights, similar to the preceding ;

1. — *Sic Johannes Baptista ora pro nobis.*

2. A Saint with a mitre and crosier :

Sic. ora pro nobis.

3. — *Sic Leonarde ora pro nobis.*

4. ST. ANDREW leaning on his cross :

Sic Andrea ora pro nobis.

VI. The 5th from the W., appears to have been the gift of one Calway in 1577 ;

Orate pro bono statu Joh'is Calway . . . (1577.)

^h The patron Saint of the adjoining St. Mabyrn near Bodmin. She was daughter of Brechan, a petty King of Wales, who had 24 children. Leland, Coll. Vol. IV. p. 153.

ⁱ A Hermit, son of an Irish King, buried at the neighbouring Cardingham near Bodmin. Whitaker's Cathedral of Cornwall, Vol. II. p. 212.

In the four lights we have the following arms and inscriptions :

1. *Sable, a Fess between 3 Daggers Or* ; for CALWAY.

2. — *Stē. laby ora pro me.*

3. — *Stē Germayni ora pro me.*

4. A Crucifix ; 2 bones in saltier on the ground :
Jesu Filii Dei miserere mei.

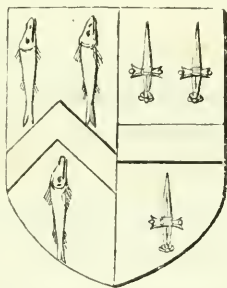
VII. The E. window of the N. aisle, (a pointed arch) contains the figures of two Saints :

Stē Johannes ora pro nobis

Stē. ora pro nobis.

There have been, also, three escutcheons :

1. *Party per pale* : on the dexter side, *Argent, a Chevron Sable between 3 Gournets hauriant Gules*,



for TUBB ; on the sinister, *Sable, a Fess between 3 Daggers Or*, for CALWAY.^k [Gone].

2. *The Coat of TUBB.* [Gone].

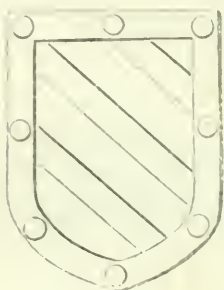
3. *Quarterly* : first and fourth, *The Coat of TUBB* ; second and third, *The Coat of CALWAY.* [Remaining].

^k “JOHN TUBB of Trengoffe near St. Neot's, married JOAN daughter and coheir of John CALWAY.” Visit. of Cornwall.

CHANCEL.

VIII. The East window, over the altar, (a pointed arch). There have been four Saints; St. Peter remains in the 2d light. There have also been two Coats of Arms:

1. *Or, 3 Bends Gules, a Bordure Sable bezantée* (for VALLETORT¹?). Remaining.



2. *Argent, a Saltier between 4 Etoiles Sable* (for LUCCOMBE^m of Bodmin?).

SOUTH AISLE.

These windows are in a more elegant style. They are all pointed arches, containing four long lights with trefoiled heads, beneath more minute ramifications.

¹ *Bendy of 6 Argent and Gules, a Bordure Sable bezantée*; for VALLETORT.—Visit. of Cornwall, MSS. Coll. of Arms.

^m *Argent, a Saltier Sable between 4 Etoiles Gules*; for LUCCOMBE. Visit. of Cornwall, MSS. Coll. of Arms.

IX. The E. window of the S. aisle is the most perfect, and the richest in coloring. It represents the Creation, the fall of man, and his expulsion from Paradise; bringing down the history of the first family to the death of Adam. The whole story (which is a mixture of Scriptural narrative and Jewish fable) is depicted in fifteen compartments, beautifully stained:—

1. The Almighty, with compasses, planing the Creation.

2. The Creation of the earth:

Hic Deus fecit Aquam et Terram.

3. The Creation of animals:

Hic Deus fecit Pisces et Bestias.

4. The Creation of man:

Hic Deus fecit Adā.

5. The Creation of woman:

Hic Deus fecit Eḡā de Adā.

6. Adam and Eve, by the tree of knowledge:

Hic Angelus. Adā de fructibus.

7. Adam eating the forbidden fruit:

Hic Adam mandit prohibītū fructū.

8. Adam and Eve driven out of Paradise by an Angel:

Hic Angelus præcipiebat Adā discedere de Paradiso.

9. Adam tilling the ground:

Hic Adam incipiebat laborare.

10. The sacrifices of Abel and Cain:

Hic Abel et Cain sacrificabant.

11. The murder of Abel:

Hic Cain occidit Abel.

12. The rebuke and condemnation of Cain :

En sanguis Fratris tui clamat ad me de terra.

13. An old man (Lamech) with a bow in his hand, having just shot an arrow into the breast of Cain half-concealed in a bush ; a child, by the side of Lamech, pointing out Cain :

*Hic Lamech sagittat Cain.*ⁿ

14. Seth placing 3 seeds under the tongue of Adam :

*Hic Seth ponit tria Grana sub lingua Adæ*ⁿ.

ⁿ These are the "Jewish traditions" alluded to by Stevens [Continuation of Dugdale's Monast. Vol. I. p. 217.]: it is singular that Mr. Forster should not have been aware that any such existed [Some Account of St. Neot's Church, 1786, p. 2.] Gough, also, strangely denies that any representations of Jewish Legends exist in this Church. [Camden's Brit. Vol. I. p. 17. edit. Gough 1789].—The opinion of Stevens, that these subjects were taken from "the Jews, who antiently traded hither for tin," is perfectly ridiculous: nevertheless it has been adopted by Bishop Gibson [Camden's Brit. Vol. I. p. 19. edit. Gibson 1753]; and, by Whitaker [Life of Neot, pp. 188, 202.] who maintains that this circumstance necessarily fixes the date of these paintings to the reign of King John! Nothing was more common than the adoption of these Jewish fables, in the period in which St. Neot's Church was actually built, and its windows stained (1480—1530).

The subject of the 13th compartment is a Rabbinical fable founded on Genesis IV. 13.—That of the 14th alludes to a tradition (partly Jewish and partly Popish) that the wood from which the Temple and the Cross were made, sprung from three seeds which Seth had been commanded to place under the tongue of Adam, after his death. This curious Legend is detailed, in 64 Stanzas, in a Dutch Work entitled "*Historia Sanctæ Crucis, Belgice* 1483;" of which an interesting account, together with a translation, may be seen in Dibdin's Bibl. Spenc. Vol. III. pp. 348—377.

15. The Almighty commanding Noah to build the Ark :

Fac tibi Arcam.

X. The 1st from the E. contains the History of Noah :

1. Noah building the Ark :

Hic Noë fecit Arcam.

2. Noah rolling a cask into the Ark :

Hic Noë introibit in Arcam.

3. Noah sending out a raven and a dove :

Hic Noë emisit Corbum et Columbam ex Arca.

4. Noah sending out a dove :

Hic emisit Columbam quæ abiit et non est reversa.

5. Noah and his family quitting the Ark :

Hic Noë egressus est de Arca.

6. Noah offering up a sacrifice on an altar :

Hic Noë obtulit Olocausta super Altare.

7. Noah intoxicated, and mocked of his son :

Hic Cham vidit Patrem nudum. . .

8. The death of Noah?

Hic Noë mortuus est.

XI. The 2d from the E. was glazed by the Borlase family :

*Orate pro aīābus Catharine Burlos Nicholai
Burlos et Johannis Uybyan qui istam Fenestram
fecerunt fieri.*

The 4 lights have full length figures of Saints :

1. The favorite legend, St. CHRISTOPHER crossing a river with the infant Jesus on his shoulder :

Sic Christaufere ora pro me.

2. ST. NEOT, crowned (in allusion to his royal descent? see pp. 23, 233.):

Sic Neote ora pro me.

3. ST. LEONARD (see N. AISLE, V. 3., p. 236.):

Sic Leonarde ora pro nobis.

4. ST. CATHARINE:

Sic Catharina ora pro nobis.

XII. The 3d from the E., was despoiled of its exquisite paintings about 1770 by the Vicar (Samuel Thomas) and the parish, by whom it was "presented to Dr. C. Lyttleton, then Dean of Exeter, afterwards Bishop of Carlisle^a." Some arms of the Benefactors (said to have been a family of the name of Martyn) were taken from three of the compartments; there yet remains the mutilated inscription,

*Orate pro bono statu. . . . Martyn et filiorum
suorum qui istam fenestram fieri fecerunt.*

1. The first of the four lights has been entirely removed; the subject was the four Evangelists.

2. A Crucifix: the subject has been the Crucifixion; the head of the Saviour is said to have been exquisitely designed.

3. ST. JOHN:

Sic Johannes ora pro nobis.

4. ST. STEPHEN:

Sic Stephane ora pro nobis.

^a Forster's "Account of the Church and Windows of St. Neot's," p. 11.

XIII. The 4th from the E. was the gift of John Mutton :

*Istam Fenestram fieri fecit Johannes Mutton
..... eror ac hujus Ecclesiæ Benefactor.*

The 4 lights contain the 4 Evangelists :

1. ST. MARK, with his emblem, a winged Lion :

*Ini'um Euangelii Ihu Xpi Filii Dei, sicut
scriptū ē ī Isay Propheta.*

2. ST. LUKE : the commencement of his Gospel :

*Fuit in diebus Herodis Regis Judææ sacerdos
quidam nōtē Zacarias de vice Abiā et uxor illius de
filiabus Aron et nomen eius Elisabeth.*

3. ST. MATTHEW ;—a child kneeling in prayer :

*Liber generationis Ihu Xpi Filii David filii
Abraham.*

4. ST. JOHN ; and his emblem, an Eagle :

In laudem Johannis.

*In principio erat uerbū et uerbū erat apud Deū
et De^o erat uerbū.*

XIV. The 5th from the E., exhibits the legend of ST. GEORGE :

1. ST. GEORGE in battle :

Hic Georgius pugnat contra Gallicos.

2. ST. GEORGE slain ; ST. CHRISTOPHER in one corner :

Hic Gallicani mactant Georgiū.

3. The VIRGIN raising him from the grave :

Hic b'ta Maria resūstat eū a Tumulo.

4. The VIRGIN arming ST. GEORGE for battle :

Hic Maria armat Georgiū.

5. ST. GEORGE mounted, and killing the Dragon :
Hic mactat Draconem.
6. ST. GEORGE led into the King's presence :
Hic capitur et ducitur ante Regem.
7. ST. GEORGE put to torture :
Hic corpus ejus lateratur.
8. The beheading of ST. GEORGE :
Hic Georgius decollatus est.
9. The design has been completely destroyed :
Hic Georgius immolatur
10. ST. GEORGE in a furnace of melted lead :
Hic ponitur in Furno cum Plumbo
11. — *Hic trahitur cum Equo indomito.*
12. — *Hic Filius Imperatoris eq'tat super eū.*

In the upper compartments are three figures.

1. (St. Mary?) a female holding a chalice. 2. In the centre, the Saviour rising from the tomb.
3. A Saint (John?) with a crozier and a book.

XV. The 6th from the E. A naked figure crowned ; about which are various designs ; viz. a sword, a horse-shoe, a wimble, an adze, a hammer, candles, scales, a lantern, a bow-and-arrow, a whip, a saw, money, the 5-of-clubs, dice, a spinning-wheel, a sheaf of corn, a scythe, pincers, &c. In the point of the arch is a Dove ; and beneath a small figure is *Eccē Ancilla*

. XVI. The West window contains no more stained glass than the following Coat of Arms :



Quarterly : first and fourth, *Gules*, 3 *Lions passant guardant Or* ; second and third, *Sable*, 6 *Mullets Argent*, 3, 2, 1.

The remains of Neot were deposited in this Church at his death in 877, and were translated to the N. side of the altar about 884. When this Edifice was rebuilt in 1480, the part of the wall in which the relics had originally been deposited was not removed ; it forms the N. side of the Chancel (see p. 232). On the N. side of this wall (where was doubtless the Saxon Chapel) is a small recess, from which projected one end of a stone Casket 18 inches by 14. Here were deposited remains of Neot ; the Founders of the Priory at Eynesbury having left a relic^b of the Saint for the Cornish Church, when they stole the greater part

^b *One arm* was missing at the Huntingdonshire Priory in 1078-9, which was then said to have been left in *Cornwall* (see p. 66, and App. VI.]

of the treasure about 974! In October 1795 this little Cemetery was broken open by some intoxicated workmen, whose curiosity had been excited by a visit of Mr. Whitaker. The Casket, above-mentioned, was found to be a shallow Cenotaph: behind it was a stone, closing the mouth of an aperture rudely formed in the solid wall; in this inner recess was discovered “about a quart of a mould-earth, very fine in itself, yet adhering in clots, and dark in colour^c”. By the side of this cavity is a wooden tablet; on which are inscribed some quaint and puerile verses, supposed to have been written just before the Reformation. The gross inaccuracies of the narrative which they detail, will be manifest from what has been said in Chapter II.:—they are inserted in the Appendix [No. XXXI.].

On two pews, in the S. Aisle, are the Arms of MOHUN, HORSEY, COODE, TREVANION, COURTNEY, MONTAGU, EDWARD DUKE OF YORK, LORD STRANGE, TREGANYON, BERE, BELLOT and GRYLLS.

The Registers of this Parish commence in 1549.

The Vicarage is estimated at 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* in the Taxation of Pope Nicholas (1291); it is estimated at 13*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* in the Valor 26 Hen. VIII.: it stands at 9*l.* 1*s.* 0½*d.* in the King’s Book.

^c Mr. Whitaker’s antiquarian enthusiasm kindles at the supposed discovery of “the very last and evanescent relics of that body which was once actuated by the high-set soul of a ST. NEOT!”—See Whitaker’s *Life of Neot*, pp. 203—211.

The tithe-sheaf of the manor of St. Neot-Barret, is appropriated to the repair of the Church.

VICARS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST. NEOT'S
CORNWALL.

1. MARTIN DE HUNTINGDON, Oct. 1266, presented by the Prior and Convent of Montacute^d.

2. WILLIAM DE TOTTON, 18 Oct. 1280, presented by the Bishop of Exeter^d.

3. JOHN ECHYM, 10 Dec. 1318, on the presentation of the Prior and Convent of Montacute^d.

4. ROGER DE HELSTON, 26 May 1329, by the same^d.

5. JOHN MOLYNS, 2 Oct. 1342, by the same^d.

6. WILLIAM GALY, 21 June, 1362, by the same^d.

7. RICHARD GALY, 23 March 1363, by the Bishop of Exeter^d.

8. JOHN TRENGOFF, 17 Dec. 1369, by Edw. III^d.

9. JOHN SYMON, 21 Feb. 1429, by the presentation of the Prior and Convent of Montacute^d.

10. JOHN PYY, 4 Sept. 1440, by the same^d.

11. THOMAS DAVY, 13 Oct. 1469, by the same^d.

12. WILLIAM POPE, 8 July 1472, by the same^d.

13. JOHN WYPPYL, by the same^d.

14. THOMAS BODLEY, 28 Apr. 1498, by the same^d.

15. ROGER SAVAGE, 10 Oct. 1499, by the same^d.

16. ROBERT TUBBE, 4 Aug. 1508, by the same^d.

^d Institution Registers, Exeter. The dates are those of the institutions.

17. RICHARD BENNET, 7 July, 1544, by John Tregonwell D. D.^d

18. THOMAS JOHN, 9 Dec. 1549, by Edw. VI.^d

19. WALTER RINGWOOD, 17 Dec. 1585, by Queen Elizabeth^d.

20. JOSEPH MAY was ejected^e; and

21. MACHIN was Incumbent “during the confusions” in the reign of Charles I.: “he hath a Sermon extant called *Epaphras*”.

22. THOMAS PHILIPPE was Vicar in 1660^f.

23. JOSEPH ROWE, 8 March 1707, presented by John Rowe^d.

24. JOHN PARSONS, 8 Sep. 1730, by Francis Sawle^d.

25. SAMUEL THOMAS, 15 March 1756, by Stephen Thomas^d.

26. RICHARD GERVOIS GRYLLS, 5 April 1793, on his own petition^d.

^d Institution Registers, Exeter.

^e Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*, p. 305. edit. 1714.

^f Terrier for the parish of St. Neot's, at Exeter.

APPENDIX.

No. I.

Account of the MSS. LIVES OF NEOT.



N Bishop Asser's Acts of Alfred a reference occurs to the "LIFE OF THE HOLY FATHER NEOT^a," which (if this reading be genuine^b) must have been written, almost immediately after the decease of the Saint, in the period 877—893: Mr. Whitaker^c conjectures (*without a shadow of evidence or probability!*) that this Life was composed by his disciple Barius, at the Priory of St. Neot in Huntingdonshire (see p. 82). Whatever was the period in which the earliest LIFE OF NEOT was written, it could not have been later than Century XI.; for an Anglo-Saxon MS. (described in the next paragraph), undoubtedly not more recent than that age, refers to a former Narrative called "THE BOOK^d."

^a "Ut in VITA SCI. PATRIS NEOTI legitur." Asser, De Reb. Gest. Ælfredi Magni, in an. 878.

^b Although contained in the *very antient* MS. of Asser, once in the Cotton Library (destroyed in the fire of 1731), yet it is not without suspicion of having been an *early interpolation*.

^c Whitaker's Life of Neot, p. 304. edit. 1806.


^d "He pær on iugeðe, þær ÐE BEĻ ƿecgeð, to bochepe lane Ʒeƿeƿe." "He was in youth, thus THE BOOK saith, set to biblical lore."—HIT ƿæigð on LE-WRITAN þ þær Halge ƿepe to Glæstungebýrig." "It is said in WRITING that this Saint went to Glastonbury."—MSS. Cott. Vesp. D. XIV. ff. 143 a. b.

Eight MSS. Lives of Neot still remain: these may be reduced to *four*; three being merely abstracts, and one a copy.

(I.)

MSS. BRITISH MUSEUM, COTTON, VESPASIAN D. XIV. (ff. 142 b.—148 a.). An Anglo-Saxon MS., of pp. 12, on vellum, in small 4to. It begins thus*:

OF SEINTE NEOTE.

æn þaleofeſte. We pýlleð eop cýðen beo ſu-
men ðæle emb þýſſen halzen þe pe toðærz
purðizeð. þ eopeſi zeleafi þe trumpe ſeo. for

This small Tract is a Homily for Neot's day, comprehending a short Narrative of the Saint's Life. The scene is altogether in the West of England, and no mention is made of the translation of the body of Neot into Huntingdonshire: it was probably, therefore, a Homily for the Church or College of Priests at St. Neot's in Cornwall. Differing in its composition from all the other Lives, it agrees with them in digressing from the principal subject to the military disasters of Alfred, and to his victory over Guthrum the Danish Chief. It omits all the miracles (see this Vol. pp. 31—37.) which are to be found in the other Lives; whilst one legend (p. 34.) is peculiar to this MS.—As to its age, it bears every mark of being a MS. *not later than* of Century XI. On the other hand, as it contains the strange anachronism (common to all the other Lives) which asserts that Neot, who died about 877, was ordained by Elpheg Bishop of Winchester, who died in 951, it is improbable that it was written very soon after the death of that prelate. It may, therefore, be referred to the middle of Century XI. This is, undoubtedly, the most antient Life of Neot known to exist; although hitherto unnoticed, except by Wanley^f, and incidentally by Turner^g. It is here published entire [App. II. A.].

* In the specimens of these MSS., the initial (and a few other) letters alone are absolute fac-similes; the remainder being as near a resemblance as could be given by types.—The illuminations of the initials M, B, D, are *blueish-green*; S, E, C, D, *red*; F, A, *ultra-marine blue*: the tracery about the limb of each being *red*.

^f Wanley's Catalogue of Anglo-Saxon MSS. p. 205.

^g Turner's Hist. of Anglo-Saxons, Vol. II p. 80. edit. 1801.

(II.)

1. MSS. BODLEIAN LIBRARY, BODLEY, 535. (ff. 39 a. to 51 b.). Containing pp. 26., written on vellum, in small 4to.

INCIPIT PROLOGUS DE VITA SANCTI NEOTI PRESBITERI ET CONFESSORIS.

BEATI NEOTI CONFESSORIS VITAM COM-
pendioso aggrediens obedientie titulo . oñi
potentis dñi miscdarũ fontẽ expostulo. quatin⁹
q' eũdẽ fcm celesti adiunx contubernio. in hui⁹modi ope

habitare. **INCIPIT VITA.**

SŪS Igitur Neotus fecunde Britanie que nunc
anglia dñr. eoif tradit⁹ parentibz cret⁹. qui usq;
adeo q'ppe carnali uigueret stemate . qđ etiã ori-
entaliũ britonũ regno regali succederent forte.
Non min⁹ aut⁹. egregi in catholice fidei extitere cõfessione.
D oq; dñs diligentẽ assignans exsuũo deuotionẽ . in nullo

From Chapter XVI. to Chapter XXI. inclusive, is a Narrative of the translation of the Saint from Neotstoke to Eynesbury, and of the first foundation of the Huntingdonshire Monastery. It begins^b in the following manner:—

EVOLVTIS pñde ñnullis tẽpoz curriculis plurim⁹q;
indigetũ ppendentibz peccatis . t q'a apud om̃pm deum

^b Bale (Scrip. p. 217.) mentions a Narrative of this translation, which began Cum beati Confessoris reliquiæ, etc.—He ascribes this Composition, also, to William de Ramsey. The MS. has probably perished.

This Life omits the legendary tales, respecting the Saint's residence in Cornwall.—It is, probably, a MS. of Century XII., and, having been copied by some ignorant scribe, is much vitiated.—It exhibits the gloss "*Vita S. Neoti Auctore Gul. Ramcesij*": Bale¹ and Mabillon², also, attribute this Composition to William de Ramsey, a Monk of Croyland. It seems to be undisputed that Ramsey wrote a Life of Neot about 1180; from which circumstance *all* the three Compositions, (II.), (III.), and (IV.), have been ascribed to him. As the Author, though prolix in his account of the translation of the remains of Neot to *Huntingdonshire*, makes no mention of their removal to *Lincolnshire*, it seems improbable that this Narrative was written by a Monk of *Croyland*, when it is considered how pertinaciously that Abbey asserted its claim to the honor of affording a sepulchral asylum to this wandering Saint (see p. 57. note v.). On the contrary, since the uninterrupted³ repose of the Saint in Huntingdonshire is asserted (lest the admission of even a *temporary* removal should countenance the Croyland claim of *continued* possession), it can scarcely be doubted that it was composed by a Monk of St. Neot's.—A Copy of this Life was seen in 1538 by Leland in the Library of St. Neot's⁴ Priory: another fell into his hands at Croyland⁵ Abbey, from which he has given some extracts⁶, professing himself ignorant of the name of the Monk by whom it was composed; the Narrative of Neot's translation into Huntingdonshire was not⁷ contained in the latter MS.—This Life has been published⁸, from the Bodley MS., by Whitaker: the most unpardonable blunders of his transcriber and of the press have been added to the many corruptions of the original. Some extracts appear in this Volume [App. II. B.]; Chapters XVI.—XXI. are published in App. III.

2. MSS. BENE'T COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE, PARKER 161. This MS. consists of pp. 10., written in double columns on vellum, in folio. It is an abridgment of MS. Bodl. 535.—It seems to be a MS. of Century XIII.

¹ Scrip. Illust. p. 217 edit. Basle, 1557.

² Acta Sanct. Sec. IV. P. II. p. 323.

³ "Talis pendebat Providentia ut... Neoti pignus, hic perpetim conservatum, alias minime transferretur." [MSS. Bodl. 535. (see App. III.)].

⁴ Leland, De Scrip. Cap. CXIII. (see this Vol. p. 100.)

⁵ Leland, Itin. Vol. IV. App. pp. 1, 2. "Ex Libro incerti Autoris, sed Monachi, de Vita S. Neoti.....Hic fuit [finitur] vetus Exemplar Croilandensis Monaster: multum, quare quod reliquum erat de rebus Neoticis desiderabatur."

⁶ Whitaker's Life of Neot, pp. 339—365.

(III.)

1. MSS. BRITISH MUSEUM, COTTON, CLAUDIUS A. V. (ff. 145 b.—160 b.). Contained in pp. 31., written in double columns on vellum, in 4to.

**Incipit plogus in uitam
sancti Neoti abbatis.**

Cum uniuersarum
essentialis rerum p
petuitas . elementoꝝ
confuse uenustissima molis
.....
salutis. **Explicit plogus.**

**Incipit uita sancti Neo
ti abbatis.**

Dñs aũ noster ih̃c xp̃ẽ.
d̃s de deo. sũmi p̃ris
imago ueriq; solis ra
dius. qui in uiscerib; misericordiẽ ad
.....

Quoniam adhuc an
glia que p̃seo no
mine britannia dicebatur


It is from this Biographer that the legendary tales, respecting Neot's residence in Cornwall, are derived (see pp.

31—37., 233, 234.).—This MS. was, probably, written at the close of Century XIII., or early in Century XIV.—The gloss of a comparatively recent hand attributes this Life to William de Ramsey; “*Per Gulihelmu[m] Abbatem* [Monachum] *Croylandensem an^o. 1180.*” Mabillon[†] conjectures that it was written by a Monk of St. Neot’s soon after the Conquest.—It was used, on the Festival of the Saint, in the Liturgical Services of the Priory of St. Neot[‡]. In the Library of that Convent Leland saw a Copy in 1538, from which he has made some extracts[§].—Mabillon has published[¶] this Life from a MS. of Century XII. formerly in the Abbey of Bee.

2. JOHN DE TINMOUTH’S “*HISTORIA AUREA*,” BOOK XXI., CHAP. 63, 64, 65. The Chapters in this work which relate to Neot are merely a compendious abstract of the Cottonian Life. It was written, in 1367, by John, a Monk of St. Alban’s. Two Copies exist:

(1.) MSS. *Lambeth Palace*, 10, 11, 12, (the Life of Neot being contained in MS. 12, ff. 88 a.—89 a.). Folio, vellum, written in double columns; the initial letters richly illuminated. A MS. of Century XIV.

De s̄co Neoto abbate.

uit quidā rex occidētaliū angloy ac
cancie nōie eldolph^o egregie magis
liberalitati studens q̄ mūdane ser
uiens cupiditati & multa de facultatibus.

(2.) MSS. *Bodleian Library*, Bodley 240. (the Life of Neot being contained in pp. 335—337.). Folio, vellum, double columns; written in 1377 at the expense of Roger de Huntingdon, for the Monks of Bury St. Edmund’s.—In the

[†] Acta Sanct. Sec. IV. P. II. p. 323.

[‡] Leland, De Scrip. Cap. CXIII. (see this Vol. p. 100, note s.).

[§] Leland, Collectanea, Vol. III. p. 11.

[¶] Acta Sanct. Sec. IV. P. II. pp. 324—336.—It is singular that Whitaker should have been ignorant of the existence of this Life, either in a MS. or printed form: “*alas! we possess this treasure in a few fragments only, and know no more of it than what half a dozen extracts very briefly made by Leland can tell us.*” Whitaker’s Life of Neot, p. 6.

margin, is an *interpolation* on the translation of the body of Neot to Croyland; this gloss is partly a remark by the interpolator himself [see this Vol., App. V. **3**. p. 273, note f.], and partly taken from the MS. which follows, viz.

3. JOHN DE TINMOUTH'S "SANCTILOGIUM"; MSS. BRITISH MUSEUM, COTTON TIBERIUS E. I. On vellum, double columns, folio; much damaged by fire. The Chapter relating to Neot consists of pp. 4, abstracted from the "Historia Aurea", and beginning with the same sentence. It contains a paragraph on the translation of his body to Croyland, and the Collects used at his Festival.—It is a MS. of the close of Century XIV.—Published, nearly verbatim, by Capgrave^t. Whitaker^u has also published it; but incorrectly. An extract appears in this Vol. [App. V. **3**.]

(IV.)

MSS. MAGDALEN COLLEGE OXFORD 53. (pp. 199—205.). Vellum, double columns, in 4to., containing 673 lines.

Incipit uita s̃i Neoti abatis
 Ngla que tota m̃ regi militat uni.
 uondā p̃tita pluribz una fuit.
 Quatuor ī p̃mis reges hūisse ref'tur.
 P̃tem q'sqz suam. regis honore regit.
 Sufficit cuiqz sua ps. nec plura petebat'
 Ali' ī alt'ius nil s' iure petit.
 Pax stabil'. uita cōcors. discordia nulla.
 Int' eos. regnat gr̃a. luor abest.
 A simili s' subiecti cū pace morantur.
 Non sciso capite. cet'a membra uigent.
 Tempis illius felicia secula rerū.
 Copia magna. salus maxima. t'ra ferax.

This is merely a puerile version of the Cottonian Life, (III.) 1.; under which it would have been classed, were it not quite distinct as a *composition* although not independent as an *authority*. It is a MS. of Century XIV. By some

^t Legenda Nova Angliæ, ff. 239 b—241 a. edit. 1516.

^u Whitaker's Life of Neot, pp. 366—374.

recent hand it is ascribed to William de Ramsey; "*Per Guilhelmum Ramescye Monachum Crolandensem.*" Bishop Bale¹, Mabillon², and the Annotator³ on Sir John Spelman, also attribute it to Ramsey.—It has been published in the posthumous work of Whitaker⁴, with great incorrectness.

No. II.

Extracts from the MSS. LIVES OF NEOT.

A.

[^c MSS. British Museum, Cotton, Vespasian D. XIV. ff. 142 b.—148 a.]

OF SEINTE NEOTE.

MÆN þa leofeste. We pýlleð eor cýðen heo jumen ðæle emb þýrren þalzen þe pe toðæiz purðizeð. þ eoper zeleafre þe trunne seo. for þā mancýnn behofeð zodeundre lare þ heo þurh þa muzen to lifer peze becomen. Ðit jægð on þan halzen zodrpelle þ þ lht on Godez zelaðun na behýðð beon ne jceal. ac up ajet eper þan candehæfe. þ þa þe þær in zað muzen þone leome zereon 7 on lhte beon. Spa eac ne mihte ðcs NEOTUS behýðð beon ne bedizeloð þa þa zozd hine zeupped habben polde.

Ðe þær on iuzede þær þe Bec jecgeð to bochepe lare zerezt. 7 to zodeunden þeapen becom. 7 zeojne jmeade þa he andzicfull þær emb þ ece lif. 7 hpu he jzidlicezt her on lfe for zode libben mihte. jpa hit appiten is. þ je reiz is jzicol 7 neape þe to þan een lfe belimpð. 7 nan mann þær to ne becomð. bute þurh mýcel zerpýne 7 for-hæfednýjre. Spa ðýðe ðcs NEOTUS forhæfde hine jýlfne þrā zeluztfullunze þýrref lfer. Ðe þær manðpæpe 7 milde ealle mannen. 7 he ðaighpamhee to huz Ðruhtene clýpode

¹ Scrip. Illus. p. 216. edit. Basle, 1557.

² Acta Sancti. Sec. IV. P. II. p. 323.

³ Spelman, Vita Ælfredi, p. 103. nota a, edit. 1688.—By a strange anachronism, Ramsey is there said to have written "about 1360" instead of 1180.

⁴ Whitaker's Life of Neot, pp. 317—338.—Mr. W. (p. 9.) calls it "the oldest Life of Neot now known." It is only a version of a Life [(III.) 1.], which itself is by no means the most ancient.

^c The whole of this Life is here published, *literatim*, except the occasional adoption of a Capital.

æfter Ðauider ranze þuſſ cpeðende. Ðruihten. þine pezeſ
ic luſiſe 7 þine æ ic folgiſen þænce. Ðo beo me æfter þinre
milðheortnýſſe. 7 tæc me þine rihtþinýſſe. Ðodlice ꝥ
ilca gebed uſ iſ aleſð ƿýſ pe ƿýlleð inſearðlice to ƿode clý-
riſen 7 hiſ milðheortnýſſe biððan.

Ðic ƿaiſð on ƿerriſtan ꝥ þeſ Ðalſe pepe to Glæſingebýriſ
geceſſeð ƿæne on Ðçeſ Ælfezeſ ðaſen þæſ halſen Biſcoper.
7 æt him underſenſ þone Ðalſe ƿacepð hað. 7 hine pel
geheold 7 þæſ under pel geðeah. 7 ƿæſ eallen mannen
eadmoð 7 luſigenðlic. 7 hiſ ƿalmeſ 7 oðre gebedan he
geornlice beeoðe ðæiſeſ 7 nihteſ. And hiſ ƿepune ƿæſ ꝥ he
polde on ðæiſ ƿelomen hiſ cneope gebeſen. 7 eac ſƿýlce on
niht to þan Ælmihtigen Gode. ſƿa ſe halſe Æpoſtel Ðçſ
Bartholome⁹ ðýðe. hund riðen [on niht 7 eallſƿa of to
ðæſ.] Ðe ƿemunde ſýmle hiſ ſýnnen þe he on hiſ iuſeðe
geſſemeðe. 7 þa geornlice bepeop 7 bepeopſeðe. 7 oðre
ƿode ƿorþinſen æteopðe.

Ðe ƿeoroðe Romebuſh ſeoſe riðen Xþe to loſe 7 Seinte
Petre. 7 þæſe hiſ ſýnnen ƿorſýſenýſſe underſenſ. Ðe
ƿæſ on eallen Godeſ beboden ſƿýðe fullſſemeð. Ðolite
þa peſte ſtope ƿeond eall þiſſ land on to ƿuniſene. 7 þa
ƿemette he þuſh Godeſ ƿoreſceapunſe. Seo iſ ƿæſt ðæleſ
þýſſeſ landeſ ten milen ƿran Petroſeſ-Ðtope. þame hat to
NEOTES-STOCÆ. 7 he him þæſ ƿununſe ƿetimbode on
ſƿýðe ƿæſeren ſtope. 7 mýriſe ƿæteſſeadeſ þæſ abuten
ſtandeð. 7 þa ſýnden ſƿýðe ƿýnſume of to þýſene. þæſ
ſe Godeſ þeoſe Ðçſ NEOT⁹ hiſ hiſ adneah on mýcelſe ƿor-
hæſeðnýſſe. ofeſ mæn oðre moðeſ 7 mæiſneſ þeoſſigenðe
þan þe hine to þeoſe geceap. ꝥ ƿæſ Gode ſýlſen. Ne
mæiſ nan mann fulllice ƿecýðen hƿu ſeðlice he hiſ hiſ
adneah æſ hiſ mæſſeſſeoſt-haðe ne æſt. Ne ƿlæiſeðe he
hiſ lichame mid ðeoſeſuſiden ſeſuðe. ne he mid eſtmeten
hiſ innað ne ƿeſýllðe. Mid þan þe he þuſſ lanſe geðrohtneð
hæſðe. on þæſe ſtope þe pe ƿon æſ ƿore ſæðen. þa onſann
ſe unſeſeoſenlice ƿeond him togeaneſ andiſen. ſƿa him ælc
ƿoð ofðimeð. Onſann þa ſænden hiſ ættriſe ƿæſnen ꝥ ſýnd
coſtnunſen togeaneſ þan Ðalſen pepe. Ac he þone ƿeond
ofeſſƿað mid rihten geleafen þuſh Godeſ ƿeſcýlðnýſſe
þum coinen ƿelomen to Ðaliſe Godeſ Ænſleſ and hiſe
geſſeſſeðen 7 pel geheſten. 7 hine manoden ꝥ he ne
geſſice Godeſ ƿorið to boðigenne ealle mannen oðð hiſ hiſeſ
ænde. 7 beheten him ƿeſſeſe ꝥ ece hiſ þe he nu mid
mýrhiðe on ƿuneð. Ðe ðýðe ſƿa ſe Ænſel bebed. Boðeðe
ealle mannen rihtne geleaf. þan ſýnfullen 7 þan þe heora
ſýnnen andetten ƿolðen 7 æſſe geſſican. Ðe behet Godeſ

Ʒodnýrre 7 hƷr midheortnýrre. 7 þær to-ecan þ ece hƷ.
þa Ʒode he manode þa heo on heora Ʒodnýrre þurh-
punedan.

Ʒit Ʒelamp rime dæiƷe þ re ÐalƷe Ʒepe on æjme moƷƷen
diƷellice Ʒerde to hƷr Ʒæter-Ʒeade. 7 þær hƷr dƷolhtunƷe
7 hƷr ƷalnƷanƷer on þan Ʒætere hƷnacodan leomen adƷealh
ƷƷa hƷr Ʒerune Ʒær. Ða Ʒeherde he ƷerunƷe iudenda menƷe.
Ðe þa hƷrædhce mid nýcefen ofƷte fram þære pelle onette.
nolde þ hƷr dƷolhtunƷ ƷunƷen eorðlice mæn eud Ʒurde on
hƷr hƷe bute þan Xnen þe ofen eallen mƷeð. FoƷlear þa on
þan Ʒæpelde hƷr ænne Ʒeoh. 7 oðerne mid him to hƷr Ʒebed-
hƷre ham ƷebƷolhte. Mid þan þe he hƷr Ʒalmer 7 hƷr
Ʒebeden 7 mædunƷan embhýdƷlice mæade. þa beoð him to
Ʒemýnde hƷr oðer Ʒeoh. þ he hƷne on þan Ʒæpelde foƷlear.
Clýpode þa him to hƷr þeiƷn. 7 behead him þ he him hƷr
Ʒeo Ʒefeccen Ʒeolde. Ðe þa Ʒær hƷr mæder beboðan Ʒe-
heppum. 7 hƷrædhce Ʒerde to þære pelle. 7 þære on þan
ƷeƷƷe ƷundeƷlice Ʒife Ʒemette. þ iƷ þ an fox þe iƷ ƷeaperƷ
ealra deora þær am Ʒeond ðunen 7 ðenen ƷundeƷlice
beƷeonde mid eƷen hider 7 þider. 7 ƷarunƷe beoð to þære
Ʒtope þære Ʒe ÐalƷe Ʒepe hƷr Ʒet ƷeðƷoh. 7 þone Ʒeoh
Ʒelæhte. 7 ætƷapen þolhte. Ða beƷeh þær to Ʒe amƷæƷte
Ðrhten. 7 nolde þ hƷr þeoƷe on ƷƷa medemlice þunƷen
ƷeunƷotƷeð þære. ƷeƷænde þa þlæp on þone fox ƷƷa þ he
hƷr hƷ alet habbenðe þa þƷanƷer of þan Ʒeo on hƷr ƷƷaceðe
mude. Ðe þeiƷn þa þærto ƷeteiƷunde. 7 þone Ʒeo Ʒenam 7
þan ÐalƷe ƷebƷolhte. 7 him cýððe eall hƷræt þær ƷelumƷen
Ʒær. Ðe þa Ʒe ÐalƷe þær mýcele ƷundƷode. 7 behead þan
þeiƷne on þær Ðælender name þ he hƷz nanen ne cýððe ær
hƷr hƷer ænde.

On þan time Ʒær ÆlƷeð King. 7 to þan ÐalƷen Ʒelomen
com emb hƷr Ʒaple þeapƷe. he hƷne eac þƷeade manegra
Ʒorðen. 7 him to ep. mid foƷe-ƷiteƷunƷe. Eala þu King
mýcel Ʒealt þu þolƷen on þýrren hƷe. on þan toƷeapðen
time ƷƷa mýcele anƷrummyrre þu Ʒebiden Ʒealt. þ nan
manniƷe tunƷe hƷt eall aƷeƷen ne mæƷ. Nu leof beapn
Ʒehier me ƷýƷ þu Ʒýlt. 7 þine heorƷe to mine Ʒæðe ƷecepƷe.
ƷeƷit eallunƷe fram þinƷe unƷulhtƷrnyrre. 7 þine Ʒýnnen
mid ælmeƷƷen alet. 7 mid teapen adƷole. 7 ƷebƷunƷ þine
lac to Romeburh Marcmū þan Pape. þe nu Ʒealt
EnƷhƷere Scole. Ðe King ÆlƷeð dýðe þa ƷƷa Ʒe ÐalƷe
hƷne behead. 7 hƷr behoden Ʒeopne hýƷte. 7 he him Ʒeala
foƷeƷæðe mid foƷe-ƷiteƷunƷe ƷƷa him Ʒýððen aneode. Ðe
ÐalƷe ofƷ ep. oðre Ʒorðan. Ic nýlle þe beðƷelƷen Ʒode King
þ me toƷeapð iƷ foƷneh Ʒe dæiƷ minƷ foƷðƷrðer þone ic

Ʒernde ſimble mid ealre heorte. Ac ic ſecge Ʒet ꝥ æfter minen forðſiðe þu feale þoligen ſcealt. 7 fram Deniſcſe þeode þu aſlemed býrt of þinen cýnerice. 7 þine cæmpan 7 heſetozen þe fram Ʒeriteð 7 toſtæncte býð. SƷa hit on Drihteneſ þiopunze aſiuten iſ. Þæt þone ſe heſide aſlemed 7 ofſlagen býð. Þonne býð þa ſcep ealle toſtæncte. Ac þonne þe ealre anƷrumeſt býð on þine mode. Ʒeðænc þu min. 7 ic þe Ʒerſilde on Drihteneſ name. Þa ſe King þaſ forð Ʒeheſide. þa forhtode he þearfe ſƷýðe. 7 hiſ bletſunze abæð. 7 aweið Ʒepende. Þim aneode ſýðden ſƷa 8cſ NEOT⁹ him forſeðe.

Ðæſ Þalzen untrumnýſſe ƷeoƷ þa fram dæge to dæige. 7 þa on þan ýtemeſten dæige hiſ handbhedden up to heofone aſtrelhte. 7 mid bliſſe hiſ Ʒaſt aſende. 7 to ſeſte Ʒepende. Soðlice Engleſ togeaneſ hiſ ſaſle comen. 7 heo Ʒelædden mid mýcelen Ʒeſean to heoforiceſ mýrðe. Þiſ leorninƷenlihteſ þa bebyrðden hiſ lic mid mýcelen Ʒurðimýnte manen þære Cipice þe he ſýlſ on ær Ʒeſette. Þæri becom þa on þære hſile mýcel ſƷetnýſſe ſtænc ſƷýle hit eall Ʒeſtneapod þære on þære ſtope mid ſýnſume bloſtmen 7 ſýnſƷe manƷum. Þæri Ʒurðen eac feale untrumme Ʒehæalde fram miſtlicen brocen þurh Groðeſ mihten 7 þæs Þalzen Ʒeeapnunge. 7 eft binnen ſeoſen Ʒeapen hiſ ban up Ʒenumen Ʒurðen. 7 on oðre ſtope mid Ʒurðimýnte aweið neh þan altere. 7 þæri eft Ʒearð mýcel ſƷotnýſſe ſtænc Ʒeporðen on þære ſtýrunze. Þæt þa forð ealle Ʒeſýlled beon ſcolden þe ſe Þalze forſeðe beo þā Kinge. Com þa Guðrum ſe hæðene King mid hiſ Ʒælieopen heſe æſeſt on Eaſtdæle Sexlandeſ. 7 þær feala manne ofſloh. Sume eac fleameſ cepten. 7 ſume on hand eodan. Ða Ælſned King þe ſe ær embe ſƷæcon ꝥ of axode. ꝥ ſe heſe ſƷa ſtíðlic Ʒæſ. 7 ſƷa neh Englelande. he ſone forſýrht fleameſ cepte. 7 hiſ cæmpan ealle forlet. 7 hiſ heſetozen. 7 eall hiſ þeode. maðmeſ 7 maðmſaten. 7 hiſ liſe Ʒebeaſh. Feſide þa lutiƷende Ʒeond hezeſ 7 Ʒezeſ. Ʒeond ruder 7 ſelðeſ. ſƷa ꝥ he þurh Groðeſ Ʒiſſunze Ʒerund becom to ÆðelſinƷe. 7 on ſumeſ ſƷaneſ hiſe hiſ hleop Ʒernde. 7 eac ſƷýlce him 7 hiſ ýfele Ʒiſe Ʒeoſne heſide. Ðit Ʒelamp ſume dæige ꝥ þæſ ſƷaneſ Ʒiſ hætte hiſe ofen 7 ſe King þæribið ſæt. hleop-ſinde hine beo þan ſýne. þan heopen nýtende ꝥ he King þære. þa Ʒearð ꝥ ýfeleſiſe Ʒærunze aſtýrod. 7 cƷ to þan Kinge eoſne mode. Ðænd þu þa hlaſeſ ꝥ heo ne forbeorpen. for þā ic Ʒeſeoðeſhſamlice ꝥ þu mýcelæte eaſt. Ðe þæſ ſone Ʒeheſſum þan ýfele Ʒiſe. for þan þe he neðe ſcolde. Ðe þa ſe Ʒode King mid mýcelre anƷrumnýſſe 7 ſiccetunze to hiſ

Drihtene elýpode, hī miltre biddende. Ðwæt þa bute him aneode ealþra se Ðalge him forfæde on-ær. 7 mare earþode he adreah þone se nu aþecccen muȝen. ac he reard eft for-iaðe ȝerfeþroð. þurh þone Ðalȝen NEOTEN. Ðe com to him aner nihtes on frefne fpyðe hrihte ſcinnende. 7 him to cp'. Eala þu King hwaet pyle þu to mede ȝerýllen þan þe þe fpa þýſſen unednýſſen alýſeð. Ðe reard afýrht on frefne fæþlice fpyðe. 7 þeh þan Ðalȝen ȝeandſereode. Eala leof he cp' hwaet mæiz ic ſýllen. Ic eam ealles Godes benamed 7 minre kýneſcepes. Ðe Ðalge him andſereode. Ic eam NEOTUS þin fneond. 7 ic nu bliſſige mid heofene Kinge. Gelýht nu on hī nihte. Ðonne becomiſt þu æfter eaſtern to þinen ædele. 7 þe to-ȝeanes cumð þin todræfed here. 7 þines cýmes þearfe fæȝenizeð. Ic þe toforren fape. þu me æfter folȝe. 7 þin folc ſamod. Ic foðlice todræfe ealle þine riðerſminnen. 7 þone King þe þe toȝeanes rið. to ȝeleafen ȝebeȝe. Ðic ȝelamp þa ealþra. 7 Guðrū ſe hædene King com to Ælfræde þan Cuiſtene Kinge mid þreotene eampan. 7 fpiðes riðode. 7 to fullhte feng. 7 he tpele dages æfter þan her on lande punede. mid mýcelre bliſſe. 7 ſýððen ȝerind ȝepende mid hī here laȝe to hī aȝenen earde. mid eallre riðbe. Ða reox Ælfrædes cýneſce. 7 hī roþið riðe fppanz þ he on ȝodeunðen ȝerripen pel ȝelæped pæf. fpa þ he ofeþdeah Biſcopes 7 Mæſſerepeoſtes. 7 Ðehdiacones. 7 Cuiſtendom pel þeah on þan ȝode time. Eac iſ to pýtene þ ſe King Ælfræd manega bec þurh Godes Gaſt ȝedýhte. 7 binnen tpan 7 tpeniz ȝeapen hī cýneſcepes. 7 þiſſ eorðlice hī foþlet. 7 to þan een ȝepende. Ðpa him God ȝeunde. for hī nihtſpnyſſe. Eala mæn þa leofe þa pæron ȝode dages. on þan ȝode time. for Cuiſtenes folcas ȝearnunge. 7 nihtſpna Ðearodmanna. Nu iſ æizhpanen heof 7 roþ. 7 ofeſcealm mýcel for folces ſýnnen. 7 pærtmes æizðer ȝea on riðe ȝea on ſelde ne ſýnd fpa ȝode. fpa heo iu pæron. Æc ýfeleð fpyðe eall eorðe pærtme. 7 unrihtſpnyſſe mýcele pexed. riðe ȝeond purilde. 7 riðbe tolyſpnyſſe. 7 tæl-nýſſe. 7 ſe þineð nu pæſpæſt. 7 ȝeapeſt þe oðerne mæiz beſpican. 7 hī æhte hī of anýmen. Eac man fpeped man. mare þone he ſcolde. þý hit iſ þepýſſe. riðe on earðe. 7 beo þan þe muȝen undeſtanden þ hit iſ neh Domeſ-dæȝe. Ne fpaieð nu ſe fæðer þan ſune. ne nan mann oðren. Æc ælc man riðð onȝean oðren. 7 Godes laȝe ne ȝemeð. fpa fpa me ſcolde. Beo þā þe muȝen onȝýten þ þiſſ purild iſ aweiȝreard 7 fpyðe neh þan ænde þýſſen purilde. Eale ȝefæliȝ býð ſe þe hīne ſýlfen on time ȝebýreȝeð. Vten nu

biddan ƷeoƷme Seinte NEOTEN 7 oðƷe ÐalƷen ꝥ heo uƷe
 þinƷeƷeƷ beon to þan heoƷon KínƷe. ꝥ Ʒe næƷe ealles to
 ƷeƷne tíme ne Ʒebíðen on þýƷƷen eapmen líƷe. 7 ꝥ Ʒe moten
 æƷteƷ ƷoƷðƷíðe to eceƷe ƷeƷte becuƷen.

13.

[MSS. Bodleian Library, Bodley 535.]

SANCTUS igitur NEOTUS fecundæ Britanniae, quæ nunc
 Anglia dicitur, Eöis traditur parentibus cretus; qui usque
 adeo quippe carnali viguere stermitate, quod etiam Orienta-
 lium-Britonum regno regali succederent sorte. . . .Horum
 Deus diligentem assignans ex summo devotionem, in nullo
 fore dissimilem eis attulit heredem. . . .In ætate namq̃ puerili
 adhuc positus, puerorum lascivias mundanis cum omnibus
 neniis spernens penitus, comptis moribus crecebat et actibus.
 Adhuc quoque adolescentulus, cunctis parentum expositis re-
 bus, mundum, nondum vir ætate, viriliter tamen cum omni-
 bus pompis suis abegit. . . .

Erat in illis temporibus famosum in Britanniae Anglicæ
 partibus Cænobium, urbs Glæstingæ nominatum. . . .Hunc
 igitur locum Dñi Omnipotentis adolescens toto mentis enisu
 amplexatus est, tanquam munitissimum asylum contra callidi
 hostis multimodum jaculum. . . .Specialiter autem frequenti
 erat incumbens orationi; illius non immemor verbi Dñi,
 “Orate ne intretis in tentationem,” et Apostoli, “Sine,” inquit,
 “intermissione orate.” Sæpenumero quoque adeo furtivis
 intempestæ noctis silentio vigilabat supplicationibus, ut
 quis esset mutatis penitus dissimularet vestibus. . . .Mox
 autem imminebant crepuscula lucis; assuetis resumptis in-
 duviis, regularibus tota die inserviebat obsequiis. . . .

Quum^b in Christo mandatis omnibus indeficiens Dei servus
 anhelaret NEOTUS, superno admonitus oraculo, ut virtutum
 novalia alio excoleret Dño Deo, Occidentalium partes gentis
 Anglorum Britannicorum (natio enim illa a Romanis affertur
 Cornu-Galliæ vocabulata) perlustrare disposuit. . . .Mox, ubi
 quod percupiebat comperit, viz. aptum solitudinis recessum,
 arduam virtutis austerioremque vitam ducere constituit. A
 Scī autem Petroci Monasterio hæc distat heremus x fere
 lapidibus; tracto vero ab ipso beato viro nomine, NEOTE-
 STOCE a^c loci incolis est appellatus. Qui locus nemorosis un-

^b Uerquam, MS.

^c Adloci, MS.

dique vallatur arboribus, perspicuisque emanat fluminibus, maris quoque superstat affinitate contiguus. . . Solitarie igitur, in Dei Omnipotentis servitio, uno integro lustro annisque duobus, paucis admodum notus permanens, pii laboris desiderio, amoreque exignitus divino, Romæ principum Apostolorum Petri et Pauli visitare proposuit limina. Quod exoptato percurrens animo, cum honore maximo a Dño susceptus est Apostolico. . . Dein benedictione fretus Apostolica. . . praelectum capiens locum. . . Cœnobium cepit edificare Fratrum. . . .

Eadem itaque tempestate, Dei famuli NEOTI famam Rex Anglorum concipiens Hæluredus. . . toto se corpore pronus ante eum advolvens more sub antiquo benedictionem sibi dari expostulavit. . . Dñi autem miles NEOTUS, . . . ut etiam sibi consanguinitate proximum carnis honorifice suscipiens, multa cum in divinis edocuit, atque deinde ex suis pravis actionibus correxit. . . Ex hoc deinceps tempore saepius idem Rex Dei alumnus requirebat NEOTUM. . . . Quadam siquidem die Rex præfatus de more familiariter cum adeo paucis ad Dei hominem accessit. Quem Dei famulus NEOTUS, inter alia plurima, acriter iterum de suis nequissimis actionibus increpuit, etiam ignis pœnas apposuit, potentes potenter tormenta pati demonstravit, et præter hæc omnia fere quæ ei affutura erant præsago spiritu protulit. "Tanta," inquit, "Rex ab adversantibus infortunia pateris; atqui tam multa adhuc patieris. Namque regno, quo tumes, quo immoderatam debacchando tyrannidem exeres, . . . privaberis; a gentibus exteris Christum ignorantibus invaderis; vix solus ab adversariis evadens, profugus latitabis divinitus, sicque peccato cogente aliquot diebus manebis. . . Pro tui igitur regni salute ac statu, sanioribus usus consiliis, legatos Romam cum muneribus reverendissimo Papæ Marino dirige; hunc obnixius deprecare, quatenus Anglorum Scholis Romæ libertatem dignetur concedere. Ego enim universæ carnis viam ingrediens, Dño meo Jesu Christo mihi hoc revelante, meque de hoc seculo vocante, in proximo concedam naturæ. Cum vero divina quod disposuit prudentia super te adimpleverit. . . Gubernantis omnia auxilium protinus invoca, et. . . tibi optatum præstabit subsidium". . . Quibus Rex auditis, vehementer ex intimis pavefactus medullis, oratione pariter et benedictione petita, largis diutius perfusus lachrymis, abiit tristis. Apparatis tamen ex famuli Omnipotentis Dei jussu magnifice legatis, Romam (quemadmodum edoctus fuerat) misit; quod petiit ex voto absque ulla intercapedine a venerabili Papa impetravit. . . .

Non multo post igitur vir Dei NEOTUS, corporis attactus languore, et hoc perindies ingravescente. . . postquam se Dominici corporis ac sanguinis participatione munivit (pacem propriis commendans oviculis, ac multis quibus animæ salus assequitur in communi exhortamine prolatis), suo in Omnipotentis Dei misericordia contradito spiritu, inter ipsa psalmodiarum et oraminum verba, alacris sanctam cælo animam reddidit. . . Venerabile vero corpus ejus in sua, cum omni diligentia, tumulatum est Ecclesia.

Jam vero Phœbo signorum tecta remenso,

Cursu biseno, revoluta septies anno,

Protinus in fabrica majori condita Templâ a religiosissimis amplificata sunt mortalibus. Unde res expetebat opportuna, servi Dei corpusculum alias in eadem Ecclesia transferendum; quod devotissime excubiis, orationibus, ac jejuniis est inde levatum; et eximie ad Aquilonarem ejusdem Ecclesiæ altaris partem, idoneo satis loco, constitit reconditum. . . .



[John de Tinmouth's "Historia Aurea" Book XXI.[†] Chap. 63, 64, 65. MSS. g Lambeth 12. ff. 88. 89.; MSS. Bodleian Library, Bodley 240.]

FUIT quidam Rex Occidentalium Anglorum ac Cantiae nomine Eldulphus, egregiæ magis liberalitati studens quam mundanæ serviens cupiditati. . . Dñs autem, cum sit excelsus, humilia respiciens, et alta a longe cognoscens, ejus opera respexit, eique filium dedit nomine NEOTUM.

Hic itaq; NEOTUS, regali prosapia ortus, transactis infantiae annis, literis ac moribus traditur informandus. . . Cum enim militares tetigisset annos, seculari noluit implicari militia; sed potius temperaliter eligens abjectus esse in domo Dei sui quam in regio gloriari palatio, in Glastoniensi Cœnobio, sub Dunstano Abbate, Monachus effectus est; in brevique

* This extract has been made from Tinmouth's Epitome, rather than from the antient authority MS. Cotton Claud. A. V.; as being more compendious, although (as far it goes) expressed nearly in the same words.

† Book XVIII., MS., Bodl. 240.

‡ This extract is printed after MS. Lambeth, except where a variation is noticed.

ad tantæ religionis ascendit fastigium, quod nihil ei virtutis et gratiæ deesse crederetur . . . Eratque clarus moribus et virtutibus, lingua facundus, verbo discretus, scientia laudabilis, doctrina mirabilis, consilio utilis, et omnibus factus amabilis, aspectu angelicus, sed corporis brevitæ alter Zacheus; scabello namque ferreo supposito missas celebravit....

^b Tandem populi frequentiam ac favorem declinare affectans, divino præmonitus oraculo, intra Cornubiæ confinia remota quæsit solitudinis loca; unius clientis nomine Barri, quem sui fecerat secreti conscius, contentus comitatu, quiq; cum nec in vita nec in morte deseruit. Sicque, ipso ducente quo præmonente, ad locum sibi a Deo præparatum devenit. [¹ Distat enim heremus illa a S Petroci in Cornubia Monasterio milliaris fere x.; et, tracto ab ipso viro Dei nomine, ab incolis locus ille NEOTESTOKE* appellatur.] Erat autem locus ille nemorosus, fluvii perspicuus et mari affinis. Transactis autem in loco illo, in magna vitæ perfectione, annis vij, Romam profectus, a Papa Martino honorifice susceptus, utroque alterius recreato solamine, postulata cum benedictione asseculus, domum rediit; et Monasterium construxit, ac Monachos congregavit. . . .

Venit aliquando ad virum Dei Aluredus^k Rex West-Saxonum, corpore humiliatus, et mente benedictionem ejus postulans: quem benedixit, edocuit et eruditum cum scientia, viam prudentiæ ostendens illi. Pravos ejus redarguens actus, jussit in melius converti; et tanto securius quanto propinquius de sanguine ejus tractus^l. Alio quoque tempore Regem eundem de tyranica improbitate, de superba regiminis austeritate, acriter SCS increpavit NEOTUS. . . . "Quid gloriaris," inquit, "in malitia? quid potens es in iniquitate? Elevatus es ad modicum et non subsistes, et sicut summi-

^k "Anno 921," in the margin; a date manifestly wrong (see p. 27, note z).

^l An interpolation in the margin of MS. Bodl. 210. It is found, also, in John de Tinmouth's "Sanctilogium" MSS. Cott. Tib. E. I.; and in the Life of Neot MSS. Bodl. 533 (see p. 261.) from which it was no doubt copied into the other MSS.

* Neotstoke, MS. Bodl.

^k The parallel passage in the Sanctilogium expressly calls Alfred the "brother" of Neot: "Venit aliquando ad virum Dei frater suus Alfredus" [Tinmouth's Sanctilogium. MSS. Cott. Tib. E. I.]. MS. Bodl. has the same as an interpolation. There is no authority for this in the original Life MSS. Cott. Claud. A.V. — (See p. 26, note v).

^l The original Life, of which this is an Epitome, is more explicit as to the consanguinity between Alfred and Neot. "Tanto securius quanto carnis propagine ex jungeretur affinis: neque enim alienus, vel ipso genere inferior SCS, erat NEOTUS, sed ex eodem sanguine cretus" [MSS. Cotton, Claud. A. V.].—"Nam fuit ex ipso quo Smetus sanguine natus" [Life of Neot, MSS. Magd. Coll. Oxf. 53.].—See p. 26.

tates spicarum contereris. Ubi est gloriatio tua? Etsi nondum exclusa est, aliquando tamen excludetur. Ipso enim regiminis principatu, cujus inani gloriatione te ipsum excedendo superbis, in proximo privaberis. Irrumpentibus quippe intra regionem istam barbaris, atque Dei permissione triumphantibus, vix solus evadens, vagus et profugus eris super terram. Sicque pauper et egenus aliquandiu latitabis, timens ne omnis qui invenerit te occidat te. Cum autem hujusmodi infortunii cognoveris effectum, confortare et esto robustus; viriliter age, et confortetur cor tuum. In omnibus Dei misericordiæ memor eris, qui, cum iratus fuerit, misericordiæ recordabitur. . . .Nunc igitur quantocius, Romam legatos dirigens, Martinum^m Papam magnis ampliare muneribus ne tardes; suppliciter rogans ut Anglicam Scholam in eadem urbe sitam non deneget applicare libertati; ut per hoc beneficium gratius tibi præstetur inter incommoda subsidium. Ego vero post modicum viam universæ carnis ingrediar; quæ tibi prædico credere ne differas.” Missis itaque Romam nuntiis quod petebat impetravit. . . .

Tandem S̄cs Dñi Confessor, Angelis in sublimi plaudentibus, debitam humano generi resolutus in mortem, cælo gaudenter susceptus est [° Pridie Kal. Augusti].

[° In eadem autem Ecclesia, quam idem Dñi Confessor a primis construxerat fundamentis, sacrum ejus ac venerabile corpusculum veneranter est humatum. . . .Aliquanto tempore transacto, placuit indigenis et Fratribus suis ut ampliarentur Edificia. Unde factum, prout res exigebat, ut sanctissimum Confessoris corpusculum de loco in quo prius erat reconditum in Aquilonari altaris parte honorifice et devote reponeretur.]

^m Marinum; *MS. Cotton Claud. A. V.*

ⁿ Added in the “Sanctilogium” MSS. Cott. Tib. E. I.; and interpolated in the margin of MS. Bodl., by a later hand.

^o This passage, being altogether omitted in Tinmouth’s Epitome, is supplied from the more antient Life MSS. Cotton, Claud. A. V.

No. III.

On the translation of the remains of NEOT, from NEOT-STOKE [St. Neot's] in Cornwall, to ERNULPH'S-BURY [St. Neot's] in Huntingdonshire.

[MSS. Bodleian Library Oxford,^a Bodley 535.]

XVI. EVOLUTIS proinde nonnullis temporum curriculis, plurimisque indigenarum^r præpedientibus peccatis, vel quia apud Omnipotentem Deum incommutabiliter præerat fixum, quatenus, ad reverendi Confessoris sui NEOTI augmentum, alio meritorum suorum ampliaretur oraculum; ad hoc, ut fideles haberent quod venerarentur et amarent, infideles vero unde inexcusabiles essent et timerent; suo cuidam ejusdem suæ Ecclesiæ custodi et famulo venerandus Christi Confessor NEOTUS visu apparuit manifesto,

Intuitusque suum custodem, talia fatur:

“Annuo te servum Domini, nunc concipe verbum;

Hinc me transfer, abi, custos, nolito morari;

Elegi loculum Christus quem jussit habendum.

Ne dubites, jubeo, supero modo missus Olympo.

En comitor tecum, dum sit quod gestio plenum.

Non hunc^e dimitto, duo^s sed mihi condere gisco:

Ossa licet sumas, doceo quo limite tendas.”

Diu tamen famulo custode hæsitante, et usque adeo differente secum^r sæpius multa, item alia et alia cogitante; proponebat enim sibi itineris difficultatem, furto cognito indigenarum insectationem, nullam loci quo tenderet notionem;

Denuo commonitus, sed terque quaterque coactus,

Esse ratum sperans, nulli secreta revelans,

Tandem inde, ex jussu, correpto pignore primo quidem delituit, ac dein S^co Comite fugitivus iter quantocius arripuit.

Erat in Aquilonarium partium axe quidam Præpotens et Dives valde, cum sua reverentissima Coniuge, quem fama volabat haud modica Christianæ devotionis esse cultorem per omnia:

Hunc, celeri gressu, famulus tentavit adire;

Hospitiumque petit, quod mox optando recepit.

^a Some manifest errors, of this vitiated MS., are corrected in the Extract. where the correction is doubtful, the original is thrown into the margin.

^r Indigetum, MS.

^s So in MS.

¹ Secumque, MS.

“Quæ autem itineris causa esset,” a Patre-familias, “quo vel tenderet, et unde,” sæpenumero sciscitatus, rem dissimulanter secretam tenuit, ac tantum Dñi quendam^u sui famulum se aggressum perhibuit. Divitis tamen supradicti tecto, uti assecla domus, cum communi familia est ex voto potitus. Scientis enim et Videntis omnia talis pendebat Providentia, ut et servus discipulus moraretur, et Dei famuli NEOTI pignus, hic perpetui conservatum^v, alias minime transferretur^w.

XVII. Et NEOTESTOCENSES accolæ, (famulum custodem concipientes abesse, et tunc siquidem haud frustra suspecti, deinde suum adeo præcipuum requirentes thesaurum, atqui inventientes sublatum,) nimio multati dolore, nimioque consternati rancore, ipsi suam redarguunt incuriam; ac ubi ubi directis veredis, maximam armatorum compellant copiam. Ad hoc, custodem famulum per se subsequi indice nacto deliberant. Jam itinera incassum plurima consumpserant^x jam montes, valles, semitas, calles, flumina, paludes lustraverant; cum tandem, eodem quo famulus progredientes itinere, unde iter ceperat^y reperere summo cum sudore. “Cur talia præsumpserit?” exhortantur edere servum, limis intuiti eum. Ac nunc blanditiis, nunc vero terroribus et minis, hunc invadere moliantur; venenumque furoris ei incutiunt. Opprobriis^z etiam conviciantur,

Vimque inferre parant, et Sçm tollere tentant.

Mox pavefactus adit Dñm cum Coniuge cara;

Profert in medium “Se Sçm ferre NEOTUM”;

Denique rem famulus veluti fuit ordine pandit.

Ad hoc, “Sibi nil esse querendum”, dicit, “si Dñi sui jussis morigeratus sit”. Hæc, et ad hunc modum alia, famulus dicebat multa; cum Dñs domus quæ ferebantur addidit omnia. Quocirca maximo exhilaratus gaudio, simul Divino hoc asserens effectum iudicio, sese medium obtulit;

Litigiumque premens, sapientis verba refudit.

“Haud censeo”, inquit^a, “vos tali rixandos negotio. Qui enim hujus Sçi, ut dicitis, Confessoris NEOTI reliquias, Dispositor rerum Summus omnium, nostras ad plagas accedere jussit, si quoquo terrarum sit hinc re-gerendus, nobis in eo sperantibus (ut fideliter credimus) demonstrabit. Producantur, igitur, Sçi^b, sed et Dei Omnipotentis servi, NEOTI pignora. Ex intimis dentur Deo præcordiis preamina; quatenus, qui suis in Sanctis gloriosus est, ipse Deus, nobis in se demonstrare dignetur credentibus, si Sçi sui

^u Quoddam, MS.

^x So in MS.

^a Inquam, MS.

^v Conservaturum, MS.

^y Ceperant, MS.

^b Siscid&, MS.

^w Tranferretur, MS.

^z Impropriis, MS.

NEOTI patrocinia, huc allata divinitus, hinc sint amplius removenda". Quod satius admodum eis visum est idoneum. Supplicationibus itaque peractis, senior inquit eis, "Jam vestrum est unde rixamini prendere, et pariter, si fas est, abire". Illis, igitur, attingere tentantibus vires deficiunt; nec prorsus amovere Sanctissimi corpus NEOTI queunt. Tunc multo plus obstupefacti capite, sæviunt, turbantur, et fremunt; furor eis tantum verba ministrat^c. "Vos", inquit, "ossa solummodo nuda, nos vero loci venerandi habemus sepulchra; vos terram factam, nos spiritus virtutem egregiam; vos mortem, nos vero vitam". Ad hæc Paterfamilias, Conjuge cum veneranda,

Motus et iratus citius discedere jussit;
 Ni faciant, damnum cum corpore ferre minatus.
 Insuper Anglorum Rex, causis concitus horum,
 Talia concipiens, asseclas illico misit;
 Præcipit, hos pellant, aut nectant, aut quoque cædant,
 Sanctum thesaurum nolens hunc esse relatum.
 Namque furor Regis tam sævus canduit inde,
 Illis quod demum vix copia mansit eundi.
 Cælitus allatum sit nobis esse quietum.
 Mittunt egregii pignus fugiendo NEOTI.
 Heros lætatur^d; Conjux probat et veneratur. . . .

XX. Christianæ igitur professionis temporis processu, multiplicata numerositate, sacras ibi excubias celebrare, immortale laudis sacrificium Deo Omnipotenti persolvere, cæteraque supplicationum munia horis canonicis reddere; unde multo perspicacius signorum eximia inibi coruscare...

Denique Vir clarus bonitatis dogmate^e gnarus
 Cogitat Ecclesiam Sancto componere dignam,
 Conjuge cum cara virtutum robore clara.

Est quidam fluvius vario sinuamine tensus;
 Tractibus obliquus, quosdam relegens comitatus,
 Fertilitate gravis glebæ^f pratis quoque lautis;
 Hunc Austri-Zephyri fons gignit ab ore riganti.
 Ast, alio de fonte satus, dat abunde^g meatus.—
 HEBLUS et OUSA sui priscei dixere coloni
 Hos fontes ambos grato sub amore maritos,
 Qui generant fluvium propria de voce parentum.
 His HEBLUS: OUSA situs spatiosum^h dat sibi litus;
 Indeque torrentum vires confert sociantum;
 Ac nunquam^h steriles cursu properante paludes

^c Ministratos, *MS.*

^d Dogmine, *MS.*

^e vel plenum corferi
^f Spatiosum dat, *MS.*

^d Probatur, *MS. Bodl.*; lætatur, *MS. Parker 163.*

^f Abinde, *MS.*

^g Gleba patris, *MS.*

^h vel denuo securus.
 Nunquam steriles, *MS.*

Æliciⁱ lustrat quæ nobilis Insula constat ;
 Moxque petit Guellam^k, cujus nectens quoque dextram,
 Concidit in vastas Neptuni gurgitis undas,
 Hoc que sub Oylanda^l nymphis tellure dicanda^m.

Supra ergo assignati fluvii ripam, ex provisu (quod credi fas est) Divino, sæpe jam dictus Familias-pater, pari Conjugis voto, cœpit Templum edificare, competenti satius litoris loco,

Nomine sub Dñi Confessorisque NEOTI.

Quæ devoto perficiens opere, curavit etiam eximio contradito cultu condecorare. Religionis quoque sanctissimæ habitus apposuit Famulos, qui Omnipotenti Deo Sçoque suo NEOTO congruentes devotius persolverent hymnosⁿ. Ad hoc, sumptus lautifice eis præsanxit necessarios; locique ipsius nomen, ad perpetuam servi^o Dei NEOTI memoriam, NEOTESBERIA cognominavit, ad præsentem diem, usque sat ex debito jure. Qui profecto locus a BEDEFORDENSI distat fere ter-tribus Consulatu^p lapidibus; item alteri bis-duobus addito uno milliariis, scilicet HOUNTENDONÆ propinquat Comitatu^q: inter utrumque tamen venerandus situs locus utrique perpatet contiguus. Quia igitur ibi specialiter tanti viri Dei excoluntur pignora, tam circa adjacentes populi, quam longius remoti, ejus profecto piissima ex eorum devotis supplicationibus sentiunt solamina. . . .

XXI...Ipse quoque Pater-familias, nec minus devotissima Conjux, exuberantibus replebantur gaudiis.

Aspera^r flabat hiems brumali frigore fervens,
 Cum nive seu pluviis. Jam membris^s ipse Decembris
 Septem^t quippe dies dederat, brevitudo præpes.
 Hoc simul octavæ celebrantur tempore sacræ
 Andree, Simonis Petri dubio sine fratris;
 Idus cum septem^u festo numerantur eodem
 Istius mensis vocitati jure Decembris.

cum de quo prædiximus custos^v-famulus beati Confessoris NEOTI a Cornu-Gallia corpus Aquilonaribus delutit Anglis divinitus. Qui videlicet custos-famulus, veluti fidelis servus, Dñi sui nutibus attentus, mentis exequens (quæ sola vera

ⁱ Aileci, *MS.*; probably intended for Aelici, Aeligi, or Heligi. *Helig* being the Monkish name for *Ely*.

^k *Upwell?*

^l *Lincolnshire Holland.*

^m *Dicata, MS.*

ⁿ *Ymnos, MS.*

^o *Sancti, MS.*

^p *Consolatu, MS.*

^q This enigmatical passage seems to assert, that Neotsbury is 9 miles from Bedford, and 14 from Huntingdon; the real distances being 12 and 9 miles.

^r *SPERA, MS.*; the *A* having been clearly omitted, with the design of being introduced in colors.

^s *Membris at ipse, MS.*

^t From 30 Nov. (St. Andrew's day) till 7 Dec. (the Octave of that feast)?

^u *VII. Id. Dec., or 7th December.*

^v *Cunctos, MS.*

libertas est) nobilitatem, usque ad suæ ultimum vitæ finem sinceritatis exhibuit devotionem. Quem cælicas ad auras, perpetua coronandum gloria, delatum, cum sanctissimo Dei viro NEORO habitare credimus. . . . Cujus etiam fidelis discipuli ossa in eadem sancti viri Ecclesia diligenter asseruntur recondita. . . .

No. IV.

On the first Foundation of the Monastery of ST. NEOT, in Huntingdonsshire, by Earl Leofric [Alric]; and on the Dedication of the Conventual Chapel, by Æscwin Bp. of Lincoln, about A. D. 974.—Also on the seizure of the Priory by the Normans, about A. D. 1077.

[Thomas de Ely's "Historia Cœnobii Eliensis," Book II. Chap. XXVIII. and XCIX. :—^xMSS. Bodl. Libr. Land. Miscel. 647. ff. 9 a. 32 b. ;—MSS. Trin. Coll. Cambridge, O.ii.1. ff. 53b. 88b.]

XXVIII. DE EYNOLUESBERI^y.—Restat igitur enarrandum de HENULUESBURY, quem SCS NEORUS primum Monachili ordine instituit^z; sed iniqua Danorum pervasione jacuit diu miserabiliter desolandus. Post plurimorum autem temporum curricula venerabilis pater Ædelwoldus locum eundem, sicut cætera per Angliam loca veneranda, relevare, et ad pristinum decorem divini obsequii reformare studuit; Monachos adducens de Ely denuo illuc regulariter sub Priore collocavit. Cum enim ad præfatæ Basilicæ dedicationem consisteret, vir Deo devotus LEOFRICUS et Uxor ejus LEOFLEDA nomine consilium habuerunt cum eo, et cum Abbate Brithnodo, rogantes eos obnixè ut Monachos illic constituerent; at illi votum eorum multipliciter amplectentes, quosdam de Ely, quosdam vero illic de Torneia destinaverunt. Deinde coram omnibus Episcopum atque Abbatem humiliter postulabant, quatenus, pro Dei amore et sanctæ religionis reverentia, eis, tanquam suis, providerent atque consulerent, ut vitam religiosam digne observarent; et esset locus ipsi Abbati et cunctis successoribus suis Ecclesiæ de Ely semper subjectus; sed ut Prior illic jugiter de Ecclesia de Ely haberetur, nisi ex ipsis talis posset inveniri, (et hoc

^x This extract is printed from the Oxford MS.; some various readings from the Cambridge MS. being noticed in the margin.

^y Henuluesberi, MS. Trin.

^z Constituit, MS. Trin.

assensu atque consilio Fratrum de Ely,) qui ipso officio dignus existeret. Ad victum vero eorum et vestimentum, 18 hydas continuo statuerunt, necessitati illorum utiliter providentes; 2 videlicet in prædicta villa de HENULUESBURI^a, et 6 apud Weueresle, et 9 apud Gamingeia: unde testes fuerunt Æscwinus Episcopus qui Ecclesiam tunc dedicavit, Ægelwinus Alderman^b, Ædricus Pape, Ædelmus Polga, et cæteri qui ad dedicationem illam fuerant congregati. Atque hoc tribus scriptis Anglice [*Anglo-Saxonice*] constat esse firmatum: unum habuit Episcopus Ædelwoldus, quod in Ecclesia pro testimonio hactenus servatur; aliud Æscwinus Episcopus; tertium ipsinnet sibi retinuerunt. Locus autem ille ad Ely diu pertinuit, donec Anglia subjugatur a Normannis; sed Ecclesia, gemens in suis oppressionibus, illud, cum multis et magnis injuste sibi ablatis, calumniatur; et continue ad Deum cum Psalmista querimoniam facit, adversus eos qui dixerunt, 'Venite et disperdamus eam de gente, et non memoretur in ea nomen Israel ultra.' Nam postea, Normannis Angliam obtinentibus, unus illorum, Gilebertus de Clara, eundem locum sibi vindicavit, Fratresque de Ely, uti in proprio illic degentes, fugavit: tres vero, non fame non verbere depellere valens, apud BECCUM in custodiam ultra mare delegavit; ac Monachos inde adducens ibi locavit, expulsis violenter indigenis. . .

XCIX. QUAM VIOLENTER LOCUS DE EYNOLUESBYRI^x ABSTRACTUS SIT ELYENSI ECCLESIE.—Gilbertus de Clara, genere ac dignitate carnis præclarus, sed tota anima atque virtute Sanctæ Ædheldredæ, Dominatriciei Eliensis Ecclesiæ, in cunctis adversarius, cui locum de EYNOLUESBURY subripiens sibi vindicare præsumpsit, indeque nostros, violenter ejectos, recedere compulit; nonnullos vero, jugi inedia maceratos et diu afflictione gravatos, de loco nequivit pellere. Tamen sic domare illorum constantiam postremo cogitans, jubet eos protrahi foras, et ultra mare apud BECCUM perpetuo custodiæ mancipandos transmisit. Sicque Monachis nostris a loco depulsis atque proscriptis, Monachos inde adducens apud ENULUESBIRI^y, contra rationis ordinem, et injuste pro nostris, locavit: quem illi, licet indebite, usque ad hunc diem pro voto obtinent, et nos super hujusmodi infestationis molestia judiciali disceptatione frustramur.

^a Enuluesberi, *MS. Trin.*

^x Enultesbery, *MS. Trin.*

^b Aldelman, *MS. Trin.*

^y Henuluesberi, *MS. Trin.*

No. V.

On the translation of the remains of NEOT, from NEOTSBURY to CROYLAND, about A. D. 1003.

A.

[Ingulph's "*Historia Croylandensis*"; published in Fulman, *Ret. Angl. Scrip. Vet.* p. 55.]

IX tempore Dñi Osketuli Abbatis Croylandiæ, cum Dani totam terram inquietarent, indigenæ de villis et vicis ad civitates et castella, et plurimi ad paludes et lacuum loca invia, refugientes, Danorum transitum et discursum pro anima præcavebant. Accidit ergo quandam magnam Dominam villæ, quæ ELXOPHESBYRY vocatur, Lefwinam nomine, sororem scilicet ex parentum propagine Dñi Osketuli Abbatis Croylandiæ, ad Witlesey tunc villam suam venire, et secum sacras reliquias, scilicet sacratissimam glebam S̄ci NEOTI Confessoris, de ELXOPHESBYRY, quia minus honorifice jacerant, ac Danorum depredationi patuerant, in Serinio ad hoc aptato deferre. Quæ dirigens celerem nuncium ad fratrem suum Dñm Abbatem Osketulum, supplice postulabat supplicatione, quatenus cum congruo Fratrum suorum comitatu Witleseiam placeret accedere, et dictas reliquias S̄ci NEOTI Confessoris secum in suum Monasterium cum digna reverentia deportare. Ille gaudens et exultans, assumptis secum quibusdam Fratribus, Witlesiam adiit, et dictas sanctas reliquias, cum debita honorificentia et psalmorum melodia, ad Croylandiam transtulit; ac juxta S̄cæ Dei genitricis Mariæ altare cum devotione debita collocavit.

B.

[John de Tinmouth's "*Sanctilogium*":^a MSS. Brit. Mus. Cotton, Tiberius E. I.—*It occurs, also, as a marginal interpolation in the Bodleian Copy of John de Tinmouth's "Historia Aurea" MSS. Bodl. 240.*]

^bVENERABILIS quædam Matrona nomine Lewina, ENOLUESBIRI, quæ nunc villa S̄ci NEOTI dicitur, Domina, (ubi

* This extract is printed from the Cotton MS., except where a variation is noticed

^b A. D. 1077, MS. Bodley. (see this Vol. p. 56, note s.)

quondam ejusdem S^ci. corporis glebam sive reliquias discipulus ejus Barrius^c, divinitus admonitus, detulerat) ad Monasterium Croulandiæ, cui frater suus Osketellus præfuit, barbarorum metuens hostilitatem, amore fraterno compulsa, reliquias S^ci NEOTI adduxit; sicut scriptum in eodem Monasterio palam ostenditur. Unde postea, dubitantibus de hoc quibusdam Fratribus, Abbas, cum devotione accensis cereis, loculum cum timore frangens, invenit testam capitis, ossa de collo, de scapulis de thorace nonnulla, ossa tibi-
arum et coxarum^d. Has enim secum Domina præfata [reliquias] attulit; in priori loco ossibus quibusdam cum cineribus dimissis. Translata enim^e fuerunt ossa illa ab Abbate Henrico, et juxta altare in honore ejus constructum collocata A. D. 1213. [^f*Diebus tamen nostris, in Monasterio S^ci NEOTI, a Fratribus Monasterii BECCENSIS occupato, Scrinium satis pretiosum adventantibus ostenditur.*] . . .

[^g NEOTE, dilecte Deo, vita eras et animo consecratus Domino: nunc exultas in fulgido Angelorum consortio. Recedebas a seculo, semper vacans soli Deo, qui te junxit sidereo angelorum contubernio. Ibi nostri memor esto! ✠ Ora pro nobis!]

[^h Præsta quæsumus Omnipotens Deus, ut qui gloriosi Confessoris tui atque Abbatis NEOTI commemorationem agimus piam^h, apud Majestatis tuæ clementiam in nostra intercessione sentiamus, per &c.].

^c Barri, [erroneously for Barri^o] MS. Cotton; and MS. Bodl.

^d Testam capitis, et ossa de collo, et de scapulis, et de thorace, et insuper nonnulla ossa tibi-
arum et coxarum. MS. Bodl.

^e Enim postea fuerunt, MS. Bodl.

^f This passage is peculiar to MS. Bodl., and is interpolated by a later hand. As this MS. was written in 1377, and as this passage refers to the Priory of St. Neot as still Alien, the interpolation must have been made in the period 1377—1400. The MS. belonged to the Abbey of Bury St. Edmunds: this interpolation was, doubtless, made by BOSTON DE BURY, a learned Monk, who visited St. Neot's Priory about 1400 (see his work, *Catal. Scrip., Eccl. in Tanner's Bibl. pref. p. xxiv.*).

^g These Collects are only in MS. Cotton, in the margin at the foot of the page.

^h Agimus, piam apud &c. MS. Cotton.

No. VI.

Letters Testimonial from Anselm, Abp. of Canterbury, respecting his visit (when Abbot of Bee) to the Shrine of the Patron Saint at NEOTSBURY, A. D. 1078-9;—with the Confirmation of the same by Oliver Sutton, Bp. of Lincoln, A. D. 1295.

[Archives Line. Cath., “Memoranda Oliveri Sutton”, ff. 122 b. 123 a.]

PATEAT universis, quod nos Oliverus, permissione divina Line' Eps, Literas sc̃ae recordationis Anselmi Cant' Archiepi, quoad cartam ipsam in nullo vitiatas, vidimus et inspeximus sub hac forma:—

“Anselmus Dei gratia Archieps etc., [Roberto Bloët] reverendo Eps Line', et omnibus qui velint scire veritatem de corpore beati NEOTI Confessoris, salutem. Sciatis pro certo, quod ego ipse, cum Abbas essem Becci, requisivi in NEOTESBERIA, in Scrinio quod vocant Feretrum, et inveni ossa S̃ci et pretiosi Confessoris NEOTI; et statim reposui ea in eodem Scrinio, excepto uno brachio quod dicitur esse in Cornu-Galliae, et excepto modico quod mecum, propter memoriam et venerationem ejusdem S̃ci, retinui: et diligenter serato Scrinio, intus clausis eisdem ossibus, retuli mecum clavem ad Ecclesiam Becci ubi in hodiernum diem studiose servatur. Precor autem, ut omnes, quibus Deus opportunitatem dabit et requisiti fuerint, aliquod auxilium (prout Deus illis inspirare dignabitur, aut in facto aut in verbo) ad construendam ejusdem S̃ci Confessoris Ecclesiam impendant; et nullus eis, qui opus ejusdem Ecclesiae procurant aut ad hoc auxilium quaerunt, aliquomodo molestus existat: quatenus unicuique Deus in vita aeterna retribuat, et idem S̃cs pro illis Deum (sicut illis scit expedire) intercedat.”

Nos quoque quantum possumus Deum suppliciter exoramus, ut omnibus, qui eidem Ecclesiae aliquod auxilium impendent, suam retribuat benedictionem et peccatorum eorum absolutionem vult^a. Et ne auctoritas dictarum Literarum, per ulteriorem inveterationem sigilli eisdem appensi ad praesens pro parte consumpti, per processum temporis evanescat, ipsarum tenorem huic scripto recentiori commendari et nostri sigilli munimine fecimus roborari.

Datum apud Bikkleswad viij^{mo} Id. Maij A. D. 1295.

^a So in MS.

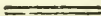
No. VI. ‡

Mandate of Henry III. to the Sheriff of Huntingdonshire, for the Restoration of the Priory of ST. NEOT which he had unjustly seized by the pretended authority of the King, 1245.

[Close Rolls, Tower, 29 Hen. III. m. 13. (back).]

REX [*Radulpho de Hereford*] Vicecomiti Cantebr' & Hunt', salutem. Monstravit Nobis [*Hugo de Fagerton*] Prior de S^{co} NEOTHO quod tu (occasione præcepti nostri, quod nuper tibi fecimus de terris Abbatum & Priorum & aliorum Religiosorum de partibus transmarinis cedentium, vel decedentium, in manum nostram capiendis) ipsum Priorem de Prioratu suo disseisivisti, & in manum nostram cepisti; similiter & terras quorundam aliorum Virorum Religiosorum de partibus transmarinis, ea occasione in manum nostram cepisti: quod quidem ex dicto mandato nostro elicere non potuisti. Et quia fines ejusdem mandati nostri excessisti, tibi præcipimus quod eidem Priori de prædicto Prioratu suo cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, & omnibus aliis de partibus transmarinis, quos de terris suis contra formam prædicti mandati nostri in aliquo disseisivisti, talem seisinam habere facias qualem inde habuerunt ante susceptionem ejusdem mandati nostri; et si quid de bonis eorum ea occasione cepisti, per pacem quam tecum fecerunt, vel alio modo, id eis sine dilatione reddi facias. Et tu nihilominus, sicut corpus tuum diligis, sis coram Nobis in crastino clausi Paschæ, ubicumque tunc fuerimus in Anglia; ad ostendendum quo waranto ipsum Prioratum cepisti in manum nostram, & terras quorundam aliorum; et ad audiendum inde judicium tuum: Et habeas ibi hoc Breve.

Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium xj^{mo} die Aprilis anno regni nostri xxix^{no}.



No. VII.

Mandate of Edward III. (A. D. 1327.) for the Restoration of the Alien Priory of St. NEOT, which had been seized by Edward II. on account of the French war.

[Close Rolls, Tower, 1 Edw. III. p. 1. m. 22.—Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. IV. pp. 246, 247, 248.]

REX Thesaurario et Baronibus de Scaccario, salutem. Supplicavit Nobis dilectus Nobis in Christo [*Clemens*] Prior de S^{to} NEOTO, quæ est Cella Abbatie Beccensis, per petitionem suam coram Nobis et concilio nostro exhibitam, quod, cum Dñs E. nuper Rex Angliæ, Pater noster, occasione guerre inter ipsum et Regem Franciæ motæ in Ducatu Aquitanie, terras, tenementa, feoda, et advocaciones ad Prioratum prædictum spectantia, (simul cum aliis terris, tenementis, feodis, et advocacionibus Religiosorum Alienigenarum, de potestate dicti Regis Franciæ existentium in regno nostro) capi fecisset in manum suam, una cum bonis et catallis ejusdem Prioris in eisdem terris et tenementis existentibus; Et terras et tenementa ad Prioratum prædictum spectantia, præfato Priori, per Literas Patentes dicti Patris nostri sub sigillo Scaccarii prædicti consignatas, commisisset tenenda ad voluntatem suam, pro quadam certa firma sibi inde annuatim reddenda, feodis militum et advocacionibus Ecclesiarum sibi retentis; Et etiam tradisisset præfato Priori bona et catalla prædicta, per certam manucaptionem ad respondendum inde dicto Patri nostro ad voluntatem suam; Velimus eidem Priori dicta terras, tenementa, feoda, et advocaciones, una cum bonis et catallis prædictis, restituere, et arreragia firmæ suæ prædictæ sibi pardonare: Nos, de assensu Prælatorum, Comitum, Baronum, et aliorum Magnatum, in instanti Parlamento nostro existentium, volentes præfato Priori gratiam facere specialem, reddidimus eidem Priori terras, tenementa, feoda, et advocaciones prædicta, una cum bonis et catallis supradictis, et hac vice de gratia nostra speciali pardonavimus ei arreragia firmæ suæ prædictæ: Et ideo vobis mandamus quod præfato Priori omnia terras, tenementa, feoda, et advocaciones ad Prioratum prædictum spectantia, quæ occasione prædicta in manum dicti Patris nostri capta fuerunt, una cum bonis et catallis prædictis, sine dilatione liberari, ipsumque et manucaptos

suos de bonis et catallis prædictis exonerari et quietos esse faciatis ; salvo Nobis apporto Abbatiae prædictae de prædicto Prioratu debito, quousque aliud super hoc duxerimus ordinandum.

Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium iiii^{to} die Februarii.
(Per Petitionem de Concilio.)

No. VIII.

Letters Patent of Edward III., (A. D. 1361.), for the Restoration of the Alien Priory of ST. NEOT, which had been seized on account of the French war.

[Patent Rolls, Tower, 35 Edw. III. p. 1. m. 14.—Rymer's Fœdera, Vol. VI. p. 311.]

REX omnibus ad quos &c. . . . salutem. Licet nuper Prioratum de S^{co} NEOTO, in Comitatu Huntingdoniæ, occasione guerræ inter Nos et Gallicos tunc motæ, ac omnia terras, tenementa, feoda, et advocaciones ad Prioratum illum spectantia, inter alios Domus et Prioratus Religiosorum Alienigenarum de potestate Franciæ, una cum bonis et catallis in eisdem Prioratibus et Domibus existentibus. . . . in manum nostram ceperimus, et custodiam eorumdem Prioribus locorum prædictorum, et aliis, pro certa firma nobis inde reddenda, per diversas Literas nostras Patentes commiserimus : Quia tamen pax inter Nos et magnificum Principem, Regem Franciæ, fratrem nostrum carissimum, jam reformata et publicata existit : Nos, ob honorem Dei et S^{cæ} Ecclesiæ, volentes dilecto Nobis in Christo [*Petio de Villaribus?*] Priori de S^{co} NEOTO gratiam facere specialem, eidem Priori dictum Prioratum de S^{co} NEOTO, ac omnia terras, tenementa, feoda, et advocaciones ad Prioratum prædictum spectantia, simul cum omnibus bonis et catallis in eo existentibus, restituimus, habenda et tenenda adeo plene et integre sicut ea tenuit ante captionem supradictam, absque aliqua firma Nobis inde, ratione captionis prædictæ, exnunc reddenda : Et ipsum Priorem et Manucaptos suos de firma prædicta exnunc exoneramus et quietamus per Præsentes ; arreragiis firmæ illius, si quæ fuerint de tempore præterito, et debitis quæ ante captionem supradictam debebantur, et nondum soluta existunt, Nobis semper salvis. In cujus &c. . . .

Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium xvj^{to} die Februarii.
(Per ipsum Regem et Concilium.)

No. IX.

Letters Patent of Henry IV. (A. D. 1399) for the Restoration of the Alien Priory of ST. NEOT, which had been seized by Edward III. on account of the French war.

[Patent Rolls, Tower, 1 Hen. IV. pat. 1. p. 2. m. 13.—Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. VIII. pp. 101, 102, 103.]

REX omnibus ad quos &c. . . salutem. Sciatis quod Nos, Intime considerantes qualiter nonnulla Prioratus, Domus, et Loca religiosa Alienigenarum infra regnum nostrum Angliæ et Walliæ existentia, per nobiles progenitores nostros ac alios regni nostri proceres et magnates, ad divina officia ac hospitalitatis et eleemosynarum aliarumque pietatis et devotionis onera facienda et supportanda laudabiliter fundata et constructa exstiterunt; Quodque eadem Prioratus, Domus, et Loca religiosa, tam per subitas et frequentes ammotiones et expulsioniones Priorum et Occupatorum Locorum prædictorum, quam per diversos seculares et alios firmarios eorundem, (postquam in manum Dñi E. nuper Regis Angliæ Avi nostri, occasione guerræ inter Nos et illos de Francia motæ, primo seisita fuerunt,) ita enormiter, tam in domibus, quam in rebus et possessionibus, destruuntur, dilapidantur, et devastantur, quod divinus cultus regularesque observantiæ inibi cessant, ac hospitalitates, et eleemosynæ, et alia insuper caritatis opera, inibi stabilita et fieri consueta, subtrahuntur, necnon pia Fundatorum vota multipliciter defraudantur et frustrantur, ad Dei Omnipotentis offensam et displicentiam non modicam ut speramus; Et volentes proinde, ad honorem Dei ac Sçæ Ecclesiæ, pro divini cultus augmentatione, ac dictorum operum caritativorum et aliorum onerum incumbentium innovatione et continuatione, gratiosius providere;

De gratia nostra speciali, et ex certa scientia nostra, et de assensu Concilii nostri, in præsentî Parlamento, manum nostram de Prioratu Conventuali de Sço NEOTO Ordinis Sçî Benedicti Lincolnensi Diœcese,

In quo quidem Prioratu Frater WILLIELMUS DE Sço VEDASTO Monachus Prior admissus, institutus, et inductus existit, sicut per Litteras admissionis, institutionis, et inductionis hujusmodi Nobis in Cancellaria nostra exhibitas et ostensas plene liquet, Qui quidem Prioratus in manum dicti Avi nostri, inter alias terras et tenementa Religiosorum

Alienigenarum, de dominio et potestate Franciæ existentium in regno nostro Angliæ, et alibi infra dominium et potestatem nostram, nuper captus et seisitus entitit, et in manu nostra occasione prædicta existit,

Penitus ammovemus, et eundem Prioratum eidem WILHELMO DE S^{co} VEDASTO concedimus et restituimus per Præsentes, habendum et tenendum sibi et successoribus suis Prioribus loci prædicti, una cum omnibus cellis, maneriis, terris, tenementis, redditibus, servitiis, feodis militum, advocacy Ecclesiarum, Vicariarum, Capellarum, et Cantuariarum, et aliorum beneficiorum ecclesiasticorum quorumcunque; ac etiam cum omnibus pensionibus, portionibus, annuitatibus, decimis, obligationibus, eleemosynis, ac aliis emolumentis, proficuis, rebus, et possessionibus, tam spiritualibus, quam temporalibus, ad Prioratum prædictum pertinentibus; Reddendo inde annuatim Nobis et hæredibus nostris, durante guerra inter Nos et illos de Francia, antiquum apportum duntaxat quod ad Capitalem Domum Prioratus prædicti in partibus transmarinis, tempore pacis, de eodem Prioratu reddi et solvi consuevit; Ita tamen quod idem Prior et successores sui Monachos, Capellanos, Seculares, et alios Ministros Anglicos, in Prioratu prædicto, ad numerum juxta primariam foundationem ejusdem debitum et consuetum, inveniant et sustentent; Ac decimas, quintasdecimas, et alia subsidia quæcumque, cum Clero et Communitate regni nostri Angliæ, quotiens et quando concedi contigerint, Nobis et hæredibus nostris, pro spiritualibus et temporalibus suis, solvant; Aliaque onera et pietatis opera eidem Prioratui ab antiquo incumbencia faciant et sustentent, juxta primariam foundationem supradictam; Aliqua ordinatione in contrarium edita, seu dictaseisina Prioratus prædicti cum pertinentiis suis prædictis in manum dicti Avi nostri, aut aliqua alia seisina in manum nostram aut præfati Avi nostri seu Richardi nuper Regis Angliæ, occasione guerræ prædictæ, inde facta, seu aliquibus concessionibus vel commissionibus inde, ante hæc tempora, per Nos, aut dictum Avum nostrum, seu præfatum Richardum nuper Regem Angliæ, aliquibus personis ad firmam factis, non obstantibus;

Volentes insuper et concedentes, pro Nobis et hæredibus nostris prædictis, quod prædictus Prior et successores sui prædicti, de quacumque alia firma et solutione annua, Nobis vel hæredibus nostris, pro Prioratu prædicto, occasione guerræ prædictæ, præter dictum antiquum apportum annuum duntaxat, in futurum solvendis, quieti sint et exonerati ac penitus absoluti; Et eundem Priorem, et manucap-

tores suos, necnon alios quoscunque inde exoneramus et quietamus per Præsentes; Proviso semper, quod de arragiis firmæ Prioratus illius, ante datam Præsentium debitis et nondum solutis, si quæ fuerint, Nobis respondeatur et satisfiat ut est justum. In cujus &c.

Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium xvij^a die Novembris.
(Per ipsum Regem.)

No. X.

Letters Patent of Henry IV. (A. D. 1409) for the Denization of the Alien Priory of ST. NEOT.

[Patent Rolls, Tower, 10 Hen. IV. p. 2. m. 23.]

PRO PRIORE ET CONVENTU DE SANCTO NEOTO.

REX omnibus &c. . . salutem. Sciatis quod cum dilecti Nobis in Christo EDWARDUS Prior Prioratus de S^{co} NEOTO ac Conventus ejusdem loci (qui est de patronatu Comitis Stafford et fundatione antecessorum suorum, qui quidem Prioratus alienig' et Cella Abbatie de Beckherlewyn in Norman' de potestate Franc' existit, de quo quidem Prioratu antiquum apportum ad xxx solidos se extendit quam summam idem Prior et Conventus annuatim tantummodo ad Scaccarium nostrum solvere tenentur prout in eodem Sc^oio de recordo plenius apparet) Nobis monstraverint, qualiter prædicti Prior et Conventus ut Alienig' et non Indig' existant teneantur et reputentur, Ac etiam quod Prior Prioratus prædicti est perpetuus, ac Prioratus suus prædictus Conventualis, ipsique et prædecessores sui Priores loci prædicti a tempore cujus contrarii memoria non existit perpetui, ac Prioratus prædictus Conventualis, existunt: Qui quidem Prioratus, per malam et indebitam gubernationem Priorum alienig' ibidem prædecessorum prædicti nunc Prioris, ac etiam ratione magnarum summarum in quibus prædictus Prior per prædecessores suos Priores Alienig' loci prædicti tam erga Nos quam erga diversos alios homines est incursum, in periculo finalis destructionis et perpetuæ exhereditionis existit, ac Divina Servitia, ibidem per nobiles fundatores et patronos loci prædicti ab antiquo ordinata et stabilita, subtracta et diminuta existunt, ut acceperimus: Nos (ob reverentiam Dei et S^{ci} NEOTI in cujus honore Prioratus prædictus fundabatur, et ad finem quod

unus Prior et unus Conventus Monachorum Anglicorum ad Divina, devotius pro Nobis et progenitoribus nostris ac etiam patrono suo et antecessoribus suis patronis et fundatoribus Prioratus prædicti, facienda ibidem fieri possit, ac etiam pro eo quod prædictus EDWARDUS nunc Prior Prioratus prædicti est ligeus noster natus infra regnum nostrum Angliæ) de gratia nostra speciali et de assensu Concilii nostri ac pro CCC marcis ad opus nostrum ad Receptam Scēii nostri solutis concessimus, pro Nobis et hæredibus nostris quantum in Nobis est, quod PRÆdicti Nunc Prior et Conventus et successores sui de cætero indigenæ existant ac reputentur teneantur et tractentur tanquam indigene nati et indigene fundati infra regnum nostrum Angliæ; Et quod prædicti Prior et Conventus et successores sui ex nunc libere habeant et teneant Prioratum suum prædictum cum Ecclesiis et alijs possessionibus juribus et pertinentiis quibuscumque, absque aliqua firma sive apporto annuatim ad Scēm nostrum vel hæredum nostrorum pro custodia ejusdem reddendo; Quodque Prioratus prædictus, ac maneria dominia terræ tenementa redditus et servitia letæ curiæ feoda advocaciones Ecclesiarum Vicariarum Capellarum et Cantuariarum wardæ maritagia releviæ escaetæ sectæ curiæ visus franciplegii libertates franchises ac aliæ possessiones et res tam spirituales quam temporales Prioratui prædicto pertinentia sive spectantia, de cætero non capiantur aut seisiuntur in manus nostras seu in manus hæredum vel successorum nostrorum Regum Angliæ, ratione alicujus scismatis sive guerræ motæ vel movendæ inter Nos hæredes vel successores nostros et illos de Franc' aut alios alienig' quoscumque aliqua de causa pro qua dicta Prioratus maneria &c. seu alia supradicta tam spiritualia quam temporalia ad alienig' religiosos spectantia in manus nostras vel hæredum nostrorum seu successorum suorum prædictorum capi vel seisi possent vel deberent; Et quod nulla impositiones contributiones onera quotæ fines firmæ subsidia taxæ tallagia sive auxilia præfatis Priori et Conventui vel successoribus suis tanquam alienig' in posterum quoquo modo imponantur, licet aliqua impositiones &c.aliquibus aliis religiosis alienig' per Nos vel hæredes nostros occasione quacumque imponi contigerit in futurum; Sed quod iidem Prior et Conventus et successores sui habeantur teneantur et tractentur tanquam Indigenæ et Anglici, et ejusdem conditionis existant sicut sunt vere Anglici infra regnum nostrum Angliæ nati, in perpetuum; Quodque prædicti Prior et Conventus et successores sui de apporto prædicto, ac de quibuscumque aliis firmis finibus subsidiis et

aliis oneribus et impositionibus taxis quotis tallagiis auxiliis et demandis quæ de ipsis tanquam alienig^{is}, occasione guerræ seismatis seu alterius causæ cujuscunque alienig^{is} tangentis mota vel movenda imposita vel imponenda reservata vel reservanda, futuris temporibus exigi poterunt, erga Nos et hæredes nostros Reges Angliæ quieti sint exonerati et absoluti in perpetuum; Et quod prædicti Prior et Conventus et successores sui de cætero habeant et teneant Prioratum suum prædictum, cum advocacionibus ac aliis possessionibus juribus et pertinentiis suis quibuscunque quocunque nomine censeantur, quietum et exoneratum de quacunque firma sive apporto Nobis vel hæredibus nostris annuatim ad Scēn nostrum vel hæredum nostrorum pro custodia Prioratus prædicti aut pro aliquibus prædicto Prioratui pertinentibus sive spectantibus reddendo seu solvendo, absque perturbatione molestatione gravamine impeditioe contradictione vel impedimento Nostri vel hæredum nostrorum aut ministrorum nostrorum vel hæredum nostrorum quorumcunque; Et quod nullus ad essend^{um} Prior Prioratus prædicti sit electus nec Prior ibidem existat, si ipse verus Anglicus ac natus infra regnum nostrum Angliæ non existat, quoquo modo in perpetuum, aliquibus statutis ordinationibus fundatione sive fundacionibus in contrarium factis aut aliqua alia causa quacunque non obstantibus. In cujus rei testimonium, has Literas nostras fieri fecimus Patentes. Teste Rege apud Westm^{onasterium} xiiij^{to} die Maij.
(Per Breve de Privato Sigillo.)

No. XI.

*Petition of the Prior and Convent of St. NEOT to Henry V.
(A. D. 1414), for the confirmation of the preceding
[No. X.] with the Royal Assent to the same.*

[Parliament Rolls, Tower, 2 Hen. V. p. 2. m. 9.—*Printed in Rotuli
Parliamentarii*, Vol. IV. p. 42.]

ITEM fait assavoir, q̄ de part les Priour & Covent de SEINT NEOTE, fuit une Petition baillee a n̄re Soverain S^{ire} le Roi, en cest Parlement, dont le tenure cy ensuit.

“ A Roy, n̄re S^{ire} tres Soverain, supplient voz Orateurs,
“ EDWARD, Priour del Priorie de SEINT NEOTE, & le Covent
“ de mesme le lieu, quell est del patronage le Count de Staf-
“ ford, & la fundation de ses Auncestres, q̄ come mesme le

“ Priorie, & toutz les possessions a ycell regardantz, furent
 “ possessions Aliens, come Celle a l'Abbeie de Beekher-
 “ lewyn en Normandie, & nemy Denizeins, tanq̃ ṽre tres
 “ gracios Pier, Henri nadgairs Roi d'Engleterre, le XIII^e
 “ jour de May, l'an de son regne disme, p̃ ses Lettres Pa-
 “ tentz, de sa grace especiale & de l'assent de son Conseil,
 “ & pur Trois Centz Marcz paiey a l'oeps de ṽre dit Pier,
 “ graunta pur luy, & ses heirs, entre autres, q̃ les ditz
 “ Priour & Covent, & leurs successours, delors soient De-
 “ nizeins, & come Denizeins neez, & Denizeins founduz de-
 “ deinz le Roialme d'Engleterre, soient reputez, tenuz, &
 “ tretez, & q̃ les ditz Priour & Covent, & leur successours,
 “ delors eient & teignent fraunchement leur dit Priorie,
 “ ovesq̃ leur Esglises, & autres possessions, droitures, & ap-
 “ purtenantz q̃conqes, saunz ascune ferme ou apport a l'Es-
 “ chequer ṽre dit Pier, ou ses heirs, pur la garde d'icelles
 “ rendre; & q̃ils, & leur successours, soient quitz, des-
 “ chargez, & assoultz, pur toutz jours, envers ṽre dit Pier,
 “ & ses heirs Rois d'Engleterre de toutz maners apports,
 “ fermes, fyns, subsides, & autres charges & impositions
 “ taxes, quotes, tallages, aides, & demandes, queux de eux
 “ come Aliens, p̃ cause de guerre, seisme, ou autre
 “ cause q̃conq̃ touchant Aliens, moevez ou a moevez
 “ imposez ou a imposerz, reservez ou a reserverz, en
 “ temps a venirz purront estre demandez. Et auxi, q̃ les
 “ ditz Priour & Covent, & leur successours, delors eient &
 “ teignent leur dit Priorie, ovesq̃ les advoesons, & autres
 “ leur possessions, droitures, & appartenantz q̃conqes, quite
 “ & deschargee de q̃conq̃ ferme ou apport, a rendre ou a
 “ paier a ṽre dit Pier, ou ses heirs, annuelment, pur la
 “ garde du dit Priorie, ou par ascuns a mesme le Priorie
 “ regardantz, ou appartenantz; & q̃ null soit Priour illoeqs,
 “ ne eslit Priour de mesme le Priorie, s'il ne soit verroie
 “ Engleis, & nec dedeinz le Roialme d'Engleterre, come p̃
 “ les ditz Lettres Patentz piert pluis pleinement. Plese
 “ a ṽre Roiale Mageste, p̃ auctorite de cest present Parle-
 “ ment, accepter, ratifier, approver, graunter, & confermer
 “ les ditz Letters Patentz, & toute la contenue d'icelles, a
 “ voz ditz suppliantz, & leur successours, selonc l'effect & le
 “ purport de mesmes les Lettres Patentz, & q'eles purront
 “ estre enactez & enrollez, en due fournie, en le rolle du dit
 “ Parlement, pur Dieu & en oeure du charite.”

La quele Petition, & Lettres Patentz, des queux mesme
 la Petition fait mencion, overtement lieux en mesme le
 Parlement, Le Roi, de l'assent des Seigñrs Espirituelx &

Temporelx, & a la requeste des Communes assemblez en yeell Parlement, granta la dite Petition, selonc le purport & l'effect d'icell, & desqueux Lettres Patentz le tenure auxi cy ensuit.

“ HENRICUS, Dei gratia, Rex Anglie & Francie, & Dominus Hibernie, Omnibus ad quos presentes Litere pervenerint, Salutem. Sciatis, quod cum dilecti Nobis in Christo, EDWARDUS, Prior Prioratus de SANCTO NEOTO, ac Conventus ejusdem loci, &c.....” [*Vide* No. X.]

No. XII.

Acknowledgment of the Supremacy of Henry VIII., by the Prior and Monks of ST. NEOT'S, 16 July 1534.

[Original in the Chapter House Westminster; with the Conventual Seal, and the Autograph Signatures. See pp. 80, 85, 86.]

QUUM ea sit non solum Christiane Religionis et Pietatis ratio, sed nre eciam obediencie regula, Dño Regi nro Henrico ejus nōis octavo, cui uni et solū post Christū Ihesum servatorem nrm debemus universa, non modo om̄imodum in Christo et eandem sinceram et integram perpetuāq; animi devotionem fidem obsvanciam honorem cultū et reverenciam prestemus, sed eciam de eadem fide et observancia nra raconem quocienscūq; postulabitur reddamus, et palam om̄ibus (si res poscat) libentissime testemur; Noverint universi ad quos p̄ns scriptū pvenit, Qd nos JOHANNES RAUNDYS Dei patientia Prior Domus sive Prioratus SANCTI NEOTI Ordinis Sancti Benedicti Lincoln Dioce et ejusdem loci Cōventus, uno hore et voce atq; unanimi om̄um cōsensu et assensu, hoc scripto nro sub sigillo nro cōmuni in Domo nra Caplari dat', pro nobis et pro successoribus nris om̄ib; et singlis imperpetuū, profitemur testamur ac fidelī promittimus et spondemus nos dictos Priorem et Conventū ac successores nros omnes et singlos integram inviolatam sinceram perpetuāq; fidem obsvanciam et obedienciam semper prestituros erga Dñm Regem nrm Henricū octavū et erga Annā Reginā Uxorem ejusdem et erga sobolem ejus ex eadem Anna fime tam progenitam qm̄ progenerandam, et quod hec eadem populo notificabimus predicabimus et suadebimus ubicūq; dabitur locus et occasio; Item qd confirmatū ratumq; habemus, semperq; et perpetuo

habitori sumus, qđ predictus Rex n̄r Henricus est caput Eccle Anglicane; Item qđ Romanus Ep̄s, qui in suis bullis Pape nomen usurpat et Sum̄i Pontificis principatū sibi arrogat, nichilo majoris dignitat^s habendus sit qm̄ ceteri quivis Ep̄i in sua quisq; Diocese; Item qđ nullus n̄rm in ulla sacra cōcione privatim vel publice habenda eundem Ep̄m Romanū appellabit nōie Pape aut Sum̄i Pontificis, sed nōie Ep̄i Romani vel Eccle Romane, Et qđ nullus n̄rm orabit pro eo tanqm̄ Papa sed tanqm̄ Ep̄o Romano; Itm̄ qđ soli dicto Dño Regi et successoribus suis adherebimus, et ejus leges et decreta manutenebimus, Episcopi Romani legibus decret^s et canonibus que contra legem divinam et sacram scripturam aut contra jura hujus Regni esse inveniuntur imperpetuū renūciantes; Item qđ nullus n̄rm oīm in ulla vel privata vel publica concione quicqm̄ ex sacris scripturis desumptū ad alienū sensū detorquere presumet, sed quisqm̄ Christū ejusq; verba et facta simpliciter aperte sincere et ad normam seu regulam sacraz scripturarum et vere catholicorū et orthodoxorū doctorū predicabit catholice et orthodoxe; Item qđ unus quisq; n̄rm, in suis oracōibus et compeacōibus de more faciendis, primū oīm Regem tanqm̄ supremū caput Eccle Anglicane Deo et populi precib; comēdabit, Deinde Reginā Annam cū sua sobole, tum demū Archiep̄s Cantuariens et Eboracens cū ceteris cleri ordinibus prout videbitur; Itm̄ qđ omnes et singli predicti Prior et Cōventus et successores n̄ri conscientie et jurisjurandi sacramēto nosmetip̄os firmiter obligamus qđ om̄ia et singla predicta fideit̄ imperpetuū obsvabimus. In cujus rei testimoniū huic scripto n̄ro cōmune sigillū n̄rm appendimus, et n̄ra nōia propria quisq; manu subscripsimus. Dat' in Domo n̄ra Capitulari, decimo sexto die mens Julij, Anno Dñi Millimo quigen^{mo} tricesimo quarto, Regni vero Regis n̄ri Henrici octavi vigesimo sexto.

Dompn^o Johes Rawnd^s P^{or} i^{bm}

Dompn^o Ricard^o Stanton

Dompn^o Thomas Stowton

Doñ^o Rycard^o Rawndys

Doñ^o Johes Wyntryngh^m

Dompn^o Richardus Newbolde

Dompn^o Robart^o Neot^s

Dompn^o Willm^o Barforde

Dompn^o Willm^o London

Dompn^o Joēs Artylboro

Dompn^o Edmundus Cayembrygge

Dompn^o Robartus Gayemblyngay

No. XIII.

Pensions allowed to the Prior and Monks of ST. NEOT'S, at the Surrender of their Monastery into the King's hands, 21 December 1539.

[MSS. Augmentation Office; from a Book entitled "Pensions temp. Hen. VIII." p. 92]

SEYNT NEOTTS
IN HUNT'SHYRE.

HERAFTER ensūth the names of the late Pryor & Chanons ther w^t ther peneyons to them assyned by the Kyngs comys- syon's to be payed to them yerly during ther lyves att ij tymes of the yere that is to sey att the fest^s of the Annuncya- tion of o^r Lady & Seynt Mychell tharchangell by even por- cions the fyrst paym^t therof to begyn att the fest of the An- nuncyation of o^r Lady next ensuyng the date herof wyche late Pryor was surrendred vnto the Kyngs use the xxj^t daye of December in the xxxj^t yere of the Raigh of o^r souaighn Lord Kyng Henry the viijth.

Johēs Rawns late Pryor ther	. . .	xl ^{li} .		
Ricūs Starton al' Andrewe	. . .	vij ^{li} .		
Ricūs Carnaby	. . . . .	vj ^{li} .	xiiij ^s .	iiij ^d .
Robtūs Hatley	. . . . .	vj ^{li} .		
Wills Tybye	. . . . .	vj ^{li} .	xiiij ^s .	iiij ^d .
Wills London	. . . . .	vj ^{li} .	xiiij ^s .	iiij ^d .
Johēs Wysman	. . . . .	v ^{li} .	vj ^s .	vij ^d .
Robtūs Nycholls	. . . . .	v ^{li} .	vj ^s .	vij ^d .

Phylp Parys.
Jo. Tregonwell
Jo. Hughes.

No. XIV.

Pensions &c. due to Officers and Monks of the dissolved Priory of ST. NEOT, surviving in 1554-5.—Also, the Pension of the last Incumbent of the Free-Chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, at PUTTOCK'S-HARDWICK in the parish of EYNESBURY, 1554-5.

[MSS. British Museum ; Original Pension Roll, 2 and 3 Philip and Mary, folio 21 b.]

COM^o HUNTINGDON.

SĀI NEOTIS nup Moñ.

Feod'. Oliueri Leader sen ^{li} oim̃ poss' dci nup moñ p annū	ij ^{li} .	xij ^s .	iiij ^d .
Ann. Wiñmi Thodey señ ac Thome Ric' et Wiñmi Thoday fil' suoꝝ Oliueri Leader et Johnis Wrothie p annū	j ^{li} .	vj ^s .	viiij ^d .
Roñti Hayes p annū	j ^{li} .	vj ^s .	viiij ^d .
Phillippi Clampe p annū	ij ^{li} .		
Pens'. Roñti Nicholas p annū	v ^{li} .	vj ^s .	viiij ^d .
Johnis Wyseman p annū	v ^{li} .	vj ^s .	viiij ^d .
Wiñmi Carnabye p annū	vi ^{li} .	xij ^s .	iiij ^d .
Wiñmi Tybie p annū	vj ^{li} .	xij ^s .	iiij ^d .
Roñti Hatley p annū	vj ^{li} .		

Lib^oa Capett, in Coñ pñdic'

Pens'. Thome Marrell Incumben' Lib ^o e Capett in EYNESBURY p annū	iiij ^{li} .
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No. XV.

*Abstract of the Titles of Deeds &c., in the Cartulary of
ST. NEOT'S Priory.*

[MSS. British Museum, Cotton Faustina A. IV.]

MEMORANDA QUÆDAM REGISTRO PREPOSITA, PLERAQUE
A MANU RECENTIORI EXARATA.

(Fol. 1 a.—36 a.)

Of Edworth, 1466. [1.] ^a	Excommunicatio in transgres-
De Bramptona, 1447. [2.]	sore Chartæ libertatum
De Bramptona, 1475. [3.]	Regni Angliæ, 1253. [21.]
De Wymbysh, 1410. [4.]	De libertatibus Episcoporum
De Henelinghama, 1295. [5.]	et Baronum. [22, 23.]
De Bramptona, 1485. [6.]	Carta libertatum Johan' Com'
De Turveya, 1327. [7.]	Cesl' et Hunt'. [24.]
Statutū de Servientibus. [8.]	Confirmatio libertatum Mo-
Le même en Français. [9.]	nasterii de S ^{co} Neoto, ab
Expositio Vocabulorum. [10.]	Hen III., 1252. [25.]
Memoranda quedam. [11.]	Carta Ric' Com' de Clara de
De Corrodo concessio Joh' de	terris Monasterii de S ^{co}
Hoctona, 1278. [12.]	Neoto, 1250 [26.] B.
De Villa de S. Neoto. [13.]	De Villa de S. Neoto. [27.]
De eadem. [14.]	De eadem. [28.]
De diversis Piscaturis in	Inquisitio terrarum quæ te-
Welles. [15.]	nentur de Priore de S.
De Ubbeston, 1290. [16.]	Neoto. [29.]
Taxatio Ecclesiastica. anno	ELENCHUS CARTARUM ^d .
1291. ^b [17.]	De Westmell. [30.]
De diversis Piscaturis in	De Parva Paxtona, 1266. [31.]
Welles. [18.] X ^c .	Registrum Bonorum Priora-
De Monast' Norli. [19, 20.]	tus de S. Neoto ^c . [32.]

^a The number is that of the Deed: when included within brackets, it denotes that no Number is attached to the Deed in the MSS.^b The Taxations of St. Neot's, Everton, and Eynesbury, alone appear.^c The Black-Letter Capitals, refer to the Deeds as published in this Appendix, No. XVI.—The Letter (D), denotes that the Deed to which it is annexed is published in *Dugdale*, and (S) in *Selden* (see p. 99.)^d This Index commences with the Deeds which follow (in p. 289), and is continued to that which is numbered C. 174. (in p. 297.)^e This Valuation was made for a Tax of two-tenths, exacted by Richard II., A. D. 1377. See App. No. XXIII.

Incipit Registrum Prioratus de S^co Neoto.

I. CARTÆ PONTIFICUM ROMANORUM.

Bulla Alexandri III. ^a [1.]

Bulla Lucii III. ^a [2.]

II. CARTÆ ARCHIEPISCOPORUM, EPISCOPORUM, ARCHIDIACONORUM, JUDICUM, ABBATUM, PRIORUM, &c.

(Fol. 37 a.—45 b.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| De Eccl' de S. Neoto, de
Evertona, et de Auca.
C. 1. (D). | De Eccl' de Bramtona, et de
Hemingtona. C. 25. |
| De Eccl' de S. Neoto. C. 2. 3. | De Eccl' de Wenge C. 26. |
| De Capella de Wald. C. 3, 4. | De Eccl' de Cloptona. C. 27. |
| De Wintringehama. C. 5. | De Eccl' de Bramtona. C. 28. |
| De Walde. C. 6. | De Eccl' de Bernwella. C. 29. |
| De Ailmarescheya. C. 7. | De Eccl' de Hemingtōa. C. 30. |
| De Chaldechote. C. 8. | De Eccl' de Cloptona, Hem-
ingtona, Bramthona, et
Bernwella. C. 31. |
| De Wintringehama. C. 9. | De Eccl' Trin' Hunt'. C. 32
—36. |
| Concordia inter Abbatem de
Saltreia et Herbertum Pri-
orem de S. Neoto. C. 10. | Concordia inter Priorem de
Stokes et Priorem de S.
Neoto. C. 37. |
| De Eccl' de Evertona. C. 11
—14. | De Eccl' Trin' Hunt'. C. 38. |
| De Eccl' de Tamseforda.
C. 15. | Compositio inter Seherium de
Quenci et Priorem de S.
Neoto, de Eccl' de Eynes-
biria. C. 39. |
| De Eccl' de Evertona, de Tur-
veya, et de Tamseforda.
C. 16. | De Grantedena. C. 40, 41. |
| De Eccl' de Tamseforda, et
de Cnottinge. C. 17. | De Eccl' de Enesbiria. C. 42. |
| De Eccl' de Tamseforda.
C. 18, 19. | De Eccl' de Wimbis. C. 43. |
| De Eccl' de Cnottinge. C. 20. | De Grantese. C. 44. |
| De Eccl' de Torveya. C. 21. 22. | De Grantendena. C. 45. |
| De Torveya. C. 22, 23. | De Eccl' de Wimbis. C. 46. |
| De Eccl' de Hemingtona.
C. 24. 25. | De Eccl' de Cratefelde, Ubes-
tun', Burtun', et Welles.
C. 47. (D). |

^a The Title printed in *Italics*, denotes that the Deed is *not* in the Cartulary; the MS. being mutilated.

- | | |
|--|---|
| De Eccl' de Henelinghama.
C. 48. (D). | De Eccl' de Henelinghama.
C. 52, 53. |
| De Eccl' de Bichewelle. C. 49. | De Eccl' de Ubestun', et de
Cratefelde. C. 54, 55. |
| De Eccl' de Bertun' C. 50. D. | De Bichewelle. C. 56. |
| De eadem. C. 51. | |

III. CARTE REGUM, ET CYROGRAPHIA.

(Fol. 45 b—53 a.)

CARTE HENRICI I.

- De Manerio Einulfiberiæ.
C. 1. A. (D).
De Libertatibus. C. 2, 3
De Feria S. Neoti. C. 4. B.
De Eccl' de Bernwella. C. 5.
De Wimbis. C. 6.
De Evertona. C. 7.
Breve ad Forestarios. C. 8.
Breve de Vexatione. C. 9.

CARTE HENRICI II.

- De Libertatibus. C. 10, 11.
De Eccl' Trin' Hunt'. C. 12.
De Feria S. Neoti. C. 13.
De Wintringhama. C. 14.
De Libertatibus. C. 15.
De Mercatu S. Neoti. C. 16
—18.
De eodem. C. 19. Z.
De Dilewik' et Ailmareshya.
C. 20.
De Libertatibus. C. 21.

CARTE H. REGIS SCOTIÆ.

- De Molend' in Hunt'. C. 22.
De Molend' in Paxtona. C. 23.
De Herdwik et Caldecote.
C. 24.
De Donationibus Antecesso-
rum. C. 25.

CARTE W. REGIS SCOTIÆ.

- De Molend' de Paxtona. C. 26.
C. Com' Simon', de eodem.
C. 27.
C. H. Com' fil' Regis Scotiæ,
de Molend' in Hunt', et de
Eccl' de Eynesbur'. C. 28.
De Herdwik. C. 29.

CYROGRAPHIA inter

- Priorem de S. Neoto et Fra-
tres Hospital' Jerus'. 1230.
C. 30.
[C. Hen. II. de Libertatibus.
C. 31.]
P. de S. N. et Alanum Dis-
pensatorem Hen. II. C. 32.
P. de S. N. et Matild' de
Ango de Herdwik. C. 33.
Hugonem fil' Henr' et Odo-
nem Burnard. C. 34.
P. de S. N. et Priorem de
Hunt'. C. 35.
P. de S. N. et Joh' de Ka-
run. C. 36.
P. de S. N. et Abbat' de
Thorneia. C. 37.
P. de S. N. et Abbat' de
Burg'. C. 38.
Amabilem Verley et Rob'
tum Troussebut. C. 39.

- | | |
|--|---|
| P. de S. N. et Rob'tum Engeigne. C. 40. | P. de S. N. et Eustachium Monachum. C. 45. |
| P. de S. N. et Wil' de Cove. C. 41. | P. de S. N. et Saniel' am de la Haye. C. 46. |
| P. de S. N. et Wil' de Bretonville. C. 42. | P. de S. N. et Thelarios Hunt'. C. 47. |
| Wil' fil' Aliæ et Hugonem de Alno. C. 43. | Johan' fil' Edich et Edm' de Tetesworde. C. 48. |
| P. de S. N. et Wil' Engeigne. C. 44. | P. de S. N. et Hugonem Episcopum Elyen'. C. 49, 50. |

IV. CARTE DE BEDEFORDA.

(Fol. 54 a—56 b.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| De Ailmaresheia in paroch' de Etona. C. 1. | C. Umfred' fil' Adæ. C. 9. |
| De Bereforda. C. 2. | C. Will' de Soches. C. 10. |
| De Boestona. C. 3. | De Wybaldistona. C. 11. |
| De Kinemundewik. C. 4. | De Chalvesterne. C. 12—14. |
| De Boestona. C. 5. | De messuag' ultra Pontem S. Neoti. C. 15, 16. |
| C. Petri Cl'ci de Bereforda. C. 6. | De Colesden. C. 17—19. |
| De Duuelho. C. 7. | De Chalvesterne. C. 20. |
| De Ailmaresheya. C. 8. | De dimid' acr' terræ apud Colesden. C. 21. |

V. CARTE BURNARDENSII.

(Fol. 56 b—57 b.)

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| De Ailricheseia. C. 1. | De iisdem. C. 6—9. |
| De Boestona. C. 2, 3. | De Boestona. C. 10. |
| De Evertona. C. 4. | De elemosynis antecessorum. C. 11. |
| De Eccl' de Cheldretona, Boscumbe, Godsford, et Edewrtha. C. 5. S. (D). | De Ecclesia de Eddewrtha. C. 12. |

VI. CARTÆ DE S. NEOTO.

(Fol. 58 a—67 a.)

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|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| De Haukesdena. C. 1. | De Munke-Herdewic. C. 3. |
| De Wintringehama. C. 2. | De Walde, Haukesdena, |

- Caldecote, Churchesweic,
Foxholes, &c. C. 4.
De Foxholes apud Herdwik.
C. 5.
De Wintringehama. C. 6.
De Capella de Wintringe-
hama. C. 7. &.
De Wintringehama. C. 8.
De Herdewik. C. 9, 10.
De diversis tenementis et
terris, in Villa et in Paro-
chia de S. Neoto, conces-
sis inter ann' 1210—1229.
C. 11—51.
De Wintringehama. C. 52.
De Walde. C. 53—57.
De Caldecote. C. 58.
De Herdewyk. C. 59.
De Walde. C. 60, 61.
De fundatione Capellæ de
Walde. C. 62. F.
De Walde. C. 63.

VII. CARTE DE HUNTINGDUNESIRA.

(Fol. 67 a—72 b.)

- De nemore vocat' Le Ho. C. 1.
De Piscaria in Usa. C. 2. b.
De bosco de'l Ho. C. 3.
De Eccl' de Eynesbir'. C. 4. d.
De Bichamsted. C. 5.
De bosco de Sudbury. C. 6.
De Sudho. C. 7.
De Westona, &c. C. 8.
De Suho. C. 9, 10.
De Westona. C. 11, 12.
De Parva Paxtona. C. 13—
16.
De Magna et de Parva Pax-
tona. C. 17.
De Parva Paxtona. C. 18,
19.
De Toulslond. C. 20—22.
De Ageden. C. 23—25.
De Stanstrete, 1226. C. 26.
De Stocton. C. 27—29.
De Adboldesle. C. 30.
De Buckwrth. C. 31, 32.
De Losbörnfeld. C. 33.
De Eccl' Sçi Clem' Hunt'.
C. 34, 35.
De Eccl' Sçi Bened' Hunt'.
C. 36.
De Elemosyna concessa Hu-
goni de Adboldesle. [C. 37.]

VIII. CARTE DE EVERTONA ET DE TETTEWRTH.

(Fol. 73 a—75 a.)

- De Eccl' de Evertōa. C. 1. l.
De eadem. C. 2.
De terris in Evertona. C. 3, 4.
De Eccl' de Evertona. C. 5.
De eadem. C. 6. (D).
De terris &c. in Evertona.
C. 7—10.
De Tettewrth. C. 11—16.
De terris in Evertona. C. 17.
De redd' in Tettewrth. C. 18.

IX. CARTÆ DE KAXTONA ET DE BRUNNE.

(Fol. 75 a—77 a.)

De terris apud Kakestunam, sive Caxtonam. C. 1—7.	De terris in Caxtona. C. 10. De Brunne. C. 11—15.
De Madeldene. C. 8. D. (D)	De concessione Rob'ti Prath de Brunne, Villani, cum sequela sua. C. 16.
C. Comitis Eustachii de donis prædictis. C. 9.	

X. CARTÆ DE BERTUNNE-BINEDICHE, DE BICHAM-
WELL, DE OBESTONA, DE HE'NINGEHAMA, DE CRATE-
FELD, ET DE WIMBIS.

(Fol. 77 b—80 b.)

De Eccl' de Bertona. C. 1. Q. (D).	De Eccl' de Heveninghama. C. 14—18.
De Eccl' de Welles. C. 2. pp.	De Eccl' de Cratefeld. C. 19.
De Eccl' de Bertona. C. 3.	De eadem C. 20. q. (D)
De tenemento Herlewini Pres- byteri. C. 4.	De terris in Cratefeld. C. 21.
De tenem' in Croveleia. C. 5.	De' manerio de Cratefeld. C. 23. Q. (D).
De Bertona. C. 6 (D).	De Eccl' de Cratefeld. C. 24.
De Eccl' de Obestona. C. 7.	De terris in Wimbis. C. 25 —28.
De Eccl' de Obestona et He- veninghama. C. 8. pp. (D).	De Ecclesia de Wimbis. C. 29, 30.
De Obestona. C. 9—13.	

XI. CARTÆ DE TURVEYA.

(Desunt omnes.)

<i>De terris in Turveya. C. 1.</i>	<i>mentis in Turveya. C. 11.</i>
<i>De terra vocat' Middelho.</i> C. 2.	<i>De terris in Turveya. C. 12</i> —13.
<i>De Eccl' de Turveya. C. 3.</i>	<i>De Eccl' de Turveya. C. 14.</i>
<i>De terris in Turveya. C. 4.</i>	<i>De terris, tenementis; et aliis</i> <i>possessionibus in parochia</i>
<i>De Eccl' de Turveya. C. 5.</i>	<i>de Turveya. C. 15—52.</i>
<i>De diversis terris et tene</i>	

XII. CARTE DE BELLOCAMPENSIBUS.

(Fol. 81 a—83 a.)

<i>De prato juxta Pontem S. Neoti.</i> C. 1.	<i>De bosco Del Ho.</i> C. 10.
<i>De terra in Dilewik.</i> C. 2.	<i>De iij hospital' in Villa de Etona.</i> C. 11.
<i>De diversis terris.</i> C. 3.	<i>De Piscar' in Usa.</i> C. 12. <i>uu.</i>
<i>De bosco ad Coquinam Monachorum</i> C. 4. ^b	<i>De iisdem.</i> C. 13—16.
<i>De tris in Adboldesleye.</i> C. 5.	<i>Conventio inter Joh' de Bellocampo et Priorem de S. Neoto,</i> 1223. C. 17.
<i>De Dilewik.</i> C. 6, 7.	<i>De diversis terris in Torne-</i>
<i>De Wibauldestone.</i> C. 8.	<i>cote.</i> C. 18, 19.
<i>De Thamisforda.</i> C. 9.	

XIII. CARTÆ DE TAMISEFORDA.

(Fol. 83 a—88 a.)

<i>De Ecclesia de Temseforda.</i> C. 1, 2.	<i>Galfridum Priorem de Sancto Neoto.</i> C. 15.
<i>De terris in Tamiseforda.</i> C. 3—14.	<i>De terris in Tamiseforda.</i> C. 16—36.
<i>Conventio inter Nich' Clericum de Tamiseforda et</i>	<i>De Ecclesia de Tamiseforda.</i> C. 37. <i>τ.</i>

XIV. CARTÆ DE QUENCY ET DE CHERLTONA.

(Fol. 88 a, 89 a.)

CARTÆ COMITIS LEGRE- CESTRIÆ.	<i>De terris in Cherltona.</i> C. 3.
<i>De terris in Cherltona</i> 1118. C. 1.	<i>Conventio inter Priorem S. Nigalii de Melento, et Priorem et Conventum de Sancto Neoto,</i> 1225. C. 4.
<i>De Tamodestona.</i> C. 2.	

^b This Deed is mutilated only at the commencement.

CARTÆ DE QUENCY.

De quieta clamazione juris in
Cherltona. C. 5.De Decimis in Grantesete.
C. 6. (S).

De Decimis in Sutho. C. 7.

De Decimis in Eynesburia.
C. 8. ff.Compositio inter Seherium
de Quency, et Galfrid' P.
de S. N. de Ecclesia de
Enesburia. C. 9. G.XV. CARTÆ DE GRANTESETE, DE CROXTONA, ET DE
GRANTESDENA.

(Fol. 89 b.—90 a.)

De Decimis de Grantesete. De Xmisin Croxton. C. 3. (S).
C. 1. (S). De diversis terris in Gran-

De Decimis iisdem. C. 2. tesdena. C. 4, 5.

XVI. CARTÆ DE WERESLAI, DE WESTMULNA, DE HE-
MINGTONA, DE BERNWELL, DE BERTUNA, ET DE WENGE.

(Fol. 90 a—91 b.)

De Decimis in Weresai. *De quibusdam Xmis.* C. 23.

C. 1. G. (D). (S).

De Xmis de Bernwell. C. 24.

De iisdem. C. 2. £.

De Eccl' de Bertunna Benedic'.

De iisdem. C. 3.

C. 25—27.

De terr' in Weresai. C. 4.

De diversis terris in Wenge.

De j marca. C. 5.

C. 28—30.

De Westmulna. C. 6—10.

De Eccl' de Wenge. C. 31.*De eadem.* C. 11—13.*De Molend' de Neuentuna.**De Eccl' de Hemingtona.* C.

C. 32—33.

14—21.

*De Capella in Bertunna Be-**De Hemingtona.* C. 22.*nedic'.* C. 34.

[CARTÆ QUÆDAM A MANU RECENTIORI INTERPOSITÆ.]

(Fol. 92 a—93 b.)

Carta Rohaïdis, relictæ Ri- De Eccl' de Wenge. [2.] A.
cardi Filii Com' Gileberti, (D).
de Piscariis de Welle. [1.] De terris in Tettewrth. [3.]

Memorand' de Tolneto. [4.] De Decimis in Hemingtona. [7].
De Bertona, 1356-7, [5, 6.]

XVII. CARTE DE TEMPORE HUGONIS DE FAGERNUM PRIORIS.

(Fol. 94 a—131 b.)

De Akeden. C. 1.	De Colmorth. [C. 73.]
De Barnetona. C. 2.	De S. Neoto. [C. 74.]
De Gamlegay. C. 3.	De Piscaria in Usa. [C. 75.]
De Barnetona. C. 4.	De Eccl' de Cratefeld. C. 72. ^c
De Parva Paxtona, 1233.	De Eccl' de Henelinghama.
C. 5.	C. 73.
De Turveya. C. 6.	De Eccl' de Bertunbinedic.
De Caldecote. C. 7.	C. 74.
De Wibaldastona. C. 8.	De Croxtona. C. 75, 76.
De Piscaria in Parva Paxtona, 1234. C. 9.	De Eccl' de Boscombe. C. 77.
De Feodis Bellocampi. C. 10.	De Croxtona. C. 78.
De Bustona. C. 11—13.	De Eccl' de Bertunne. C. 79.
De Tetteword, et de Evertona.	De Eccl' de Bernwell. C. 80.
C. 14—21.	De Eccl' de Bramtona. C. 81.
De Gameleg', C. 22—39.	De Eccl' de Heveninghama.
De Eccl' de Torveia. [C. 40,	C. 82.
41.]	De Eccl' de Melcheburn.
De Duuelho. C. 40.	C. 83—85.
De Forda, 1230. C. 41.	De Turveya. C. 86—91.
De S. Neoto. C. 42.	De Gameleg'. [C. 92—95.]
De ij Caponibus. C. 43.	De Turveya. [C. 96—105.]
De S. Neoto, 1220—1230.	Carta Johannis de Sondeia.
C. 44—55.	[C. 106.]
De Dinilho. C. 56.	De Torveya. [C. 107, 108.]
De S. Neoto. C. 57, 58.	De Evertona. [C. 109.]
De terra in Okris. C. 59.	C. Wil' de Baiciis. [C. 110.]
De Gameleg'. C. 60—70.	De S. Neoto. [C. 111.]
De Turo. C. 71.	C. Helie Fabri. [C. 112.]
De Wibaudestona. C. 72. ^c	De Bedefort. [C. 113.]
	C. Ric' Burnart. [C. 114.]

^c The No. 72. is repeated in the Cartulary; and the three intervening Deeds have no Nos. attached to them.

- De Ecclesia de Cnottinge. [C. 115.]
 De Torveya. [C. 116.]
 De Gameleg'. [C. 117—119.]
 De Torveya. [C. 120—126.]
 De Gameleg'. [C. 127—130.]
 De Turveya. [C. 131—135.]
 De Eccl' de Bertuna Benedic'. [C. 136—138.]
 De Gameleg'. [C. 139.]
 De Evertuna. [C. 140.]
 Carta Rogeri de Quency de Manerio de Cherltona. [C. 141.]
 De Turveya. [C. 142.]
 De S. Neoto. [C. 143.]
 De Marisco de Heycharwen, 1243, [C. 144.]
 De Marisco juxta Muchwere. [C. 145.]
 De Marisco de Merch. [C. 146.]
 De Offord le Daneys. [C. 147.]
 De Haylewestona. [C. 148.]
 De messuag' in Villa S. Neoti ad Crucem. [C. 149.]
 De Turveya. [C. 150—154.]
 De terris in Brñesheyfeld. [C. 155.]
 De Longeland. [C. 156.]
 De Turveya. [C. 157, 158.]
 De Offord [C. 159—161.]
 De S. Neoto. [C. 162.]
 De Eccl' de Hevenighama. [C. 163.]
 De Chalvesterne, A. D. 1245. [C. 164.]
 De Turveya. [C. 165—167.]
 De Kaxtona. [C. 168.]
 Bulla Papæ Innocentii III., 1201, de Compositione de Ecclesia de Eynesburia. [C. 169.]
 De Feodo W. de Bellocampo in Etona, 1240. [C. 170.]
 De Turveya. [C. 171—173.]
 De Ecclesia de Wimbis. [C. 174.]^d
 De Wenge. [C. 175.]

XVIII. CARTE QUÆDAM MISCELLANÆ.

(Fol. 132 b.—151 a.)

- De Temiseforda, 1240. [1, 2.]
 De Wymbis, 1250. [3.]
 De Crandona, 1240. [4.]
 De Turveya, 1251. [5—12.]
 De pens' conces' Hug' de Alney Clerico, 1260. [13.]
 De Duuelho. [14, 15.]
 De Herdewic, 1254. [16.]
 De Duuelho, 1254. [17.]
 De Herdewic, [18.]
 De Forda, 1255. [19.]
 De Thurveya, 1253. [20.]
 De S. Neoto. [21.]
 De Offord. [22.]
 De Hayllewestona. [23.]
 De S. Neoto, 1256. [24.]
 De Piscaturis in Usa. [25.]
 De Herdewic. [26.]
 De Paxtona, 1257. [27.]
 De Chalvesterne. [28.]
 Donatio Will' le Charboner, Villani, facta ab Henr' Engayne. [29.]
 De S. Neoto, 1257. [30.]

^d This is the last Deed contained in the *Index* of the Cartulary.

- De Bereforda. [31, 32.]
 Corrodiū concess' Matildæ
 de Bichamsted. [33.]
 Corrodiū concess' Ric'o le
 Them de Turveya. [34.]
 De Evertona. [35.]
 Privilegia concess', a Will' P.
 de S. N., Ric'o de Wivel-
 forda Cler'o, 1260. [36.]^c
 Memorandum de Sabina ux-
 ore Rob'ti Leonard. [37.]
 C. Henr' Prioris de S. N.,
 1257. [38.]
 De Bartholomeo de Heming-
 tona, servo Cōvent^o. [39.]^f
 C. Henr' Prioris de S. N.,
 1265. [40.]
 De S. Neoto, 1265. [41.]
 De Caldecote. [42.]
 De Ecel' de Cratefeld. [43.]
 De Brunne. [44.]
 De Ecel' de Cratefeld. [45.]
 De Cherltona. [46, 47.]
 De Caxtona. [48.]
 De Bichamstede. [49.]
 De Gameleg'. [50.]
 Mem' e Magno Rotulo [51.]
 De Wiboldestona. [52.]
 Plac' ap' Westm', 1332, de
 Ubbestum'. [53.]
 Recordum de Mogerhanger,
 Evertona, et Themisforda,
 1329. [54.]
 Excerpta e Magno Rotulo,
 1332. [55.]
 Plac' ap' Westm' 1312, de
 Croxtona. [56.]
 Plac' ap' Westm', 1366, de
 S. Neoto et Wintringhama.
 [57.]
 De Thoday-Wode, in Comit'
 Bed' [58.]
 Fragmenta quædam fere de-
 leta.

* Richard de Wivelford was allowed 52s. per annum, so long as he should "stand in the Schools." If he should prefer spending his vacations at St. Neot's, the pension was to be discontinued during his residence in the Convent. He was allowed, every year, "one robe of good quality, such as was given to other clerks; also, one of the horses of the Monastery, on going to and returning from the Schools." Folio 139 b.

^f Bartholemew de Hemington was taken into the service of the Convent with the following stipulations.—He was to wait in the "Guests' Hall" [*Aula Hospitum*], and to undertake journeys for the affairs of the Priory, at the discretion of the Prior. He was not allowed to marry; nor to bequeath his property of any description, which was to belong to the Monastery at his death. In consideration of these services, he was allowed, for his daily support,—“from the Battery, one manchet [*“micha monachilis,”* a small loaf,] of the same quality as those given to the Monks, and one gallon and a half of beer;—also, from the common Kitchen, such pottage as the Monks eat in the Refectory:” for cloathes, 13s. 4d. per annum. In the case of his marrying, or neglecting his duties, or offending the Monks, or stealing the property of the Convent, he was to forfeit the whole of his allowance 'till suitable reparation had been made. Folio 140 a.

No. XVI.

Extracts from the Cartulary of the Priory of ST. NEOT.

[MSS. British Museum, Cotton, Faustina A. IV.]

A.*On the manor of ST. NEOT'S, (A. D. 1113).*

[Folio 45 b.]

ANNO ab Incarnatione Dñi 1113, Henrico regnante Dei gratia Rege Anglorum, Rohes uxor Ricardi filii Comitis Gisleberti, dedit Deo, et Sçæ Mariæ Becci, Sçoque NEOTO ERNULFIBERIÆ, et Monachis ibidem Deo famulantibus, totum insimul idem manerium ERNULFIBERIÆ, et quicquid ad illud pertinet, sicut ipsa tenebat; pro salute Regis Henrici, uxoris ejus Matildis, atque filiorum suorum; et pro anima Willielmi Regis patris sui, et Matildis matrissuæ, fratrumque suorum; et pro anima Ricardi mariti sui, et salute animæ suæ, filiorumque et filiarum, atque omnium parentum suorum. Hoc donum concessit Gislebertus filius suus, uxorque ejus Æliz [*Ade-liza*], et filii sui; rogatu et petitione ejusdem Rohes matris suæ, fratrumque suorum, Rogeri scilicet, Walteri, Roberti, sororumque suarum, necnon parentum et amicorum suorum. — Testibus &c.

B.*On the manor of ST. NEOT'S, (A. D. 1254).*

[Folio 27 b.]

OMNIBUS &c. Ric' de Clare Comes Gloverniæ et Hertford salutem in Dño. Noverit universitas vestra me. . . confirmasse . . . Deo, et beatæ Mariæ de Becco, Sçoque NEOTO, et Monachis ibidem Deo servientibus, . . . quicquid habent de feodo meo in manerio et parochia SçI NEOTI. . . . Salva tamen mihi et hæredibus meis, tanquam patronis, Custodia

Prioratus S^ci NEOTI, quando Prior (qui pro tempore fuerit) mortuus vel amotus fuerit, vel quando mare transierit. . . Datum apud London', A. D. 1254.

C.

On the manor of CRATEFIELD, (A. D. 1100).

[Folio 79 b.]

MATILDIS DE S^co LICIO, uxor^e Roberti filii Ricardi, omnibus &c. . . . Noverit universitas vestra. . . . me dedisse et præsenti carta confirmasse Deo, et Ecclesiæ S^ci NEOTI, et Monachis Becci in ea Deo servientibus, totam tertiam partem manerii mei de CRATESFIELD, quod est liberum maritagium meum. . . . Præfati autem Monachi, ad petitionem meam, receperunt duos Presbyteros ad habitum Monachilem in Domo sua, in perpetuum de prædicta elemosyna victuros; pro salute animæ meæ, et animæ patris mei cujus corpus ibi requiescit, et animabus omnium antecessorum et successorum meorum. Quare volo, &c. . . . Facta est autem hæc elemosyna, Anno ab Incarnatione Dñi 1100.

D.

On land at MADELDENE.

[Folio 76 a.]

SCIANT præsentēs &c. . . . quod ego Tedbaldus de Chalere, pro salute animæ meæ, et uxoris meæ, et hæredum meorum, et patris mei. . . . dedi Deo et Monachis S^ci NEOTI, et super altare obtuli, in perpetuam elemosynam, . . . totam terram meam quam habui ex utraque parte MADELDENE, quæ jacebat inter terras Dñi mei Stephani et terram Gaudfridi Militis. . . . Et quia ego sigillum non habui, petitione mea Dñus meus Stephanus hanc donationem meam sub suo sigillo confirmavit.—Hujus rei Testes &c.

* Filia, MS.; but in the margin it is thus corrected, " fuit uxor Rob'ti non filia."

£. . . . £.

On a portion of tithes in WARESLEY, (before A. D. 1132).

[Folio 90 a.]

EGO Robertus Waste concessi Deo, et S̄cæ Mariæ Becci, et S̄cō NEOTO Confessori, et Ecclesiæ ejus de ERNULESBERIA, et Monachis qui inibi Deo deserviunt, duas partes totius decimæ meæ de WERESLAI; in omni vidt. substantia mea, in segetibus, [et] in animalibus unde decima dari debet. Et hoc feci præcipue pro anima Soëni de Essessa [Essexa?], et pro salute Dñi mei Roberti, filii prædicti Soëni, qui mihi hanc terram dedit, et pro salute Gunnor uxoris suæ, et pro salute mea, et uxoris meæ, et Willielmi filii Gerei Patris sui, . . . Hoc autem concessi apud ERNULESBERIAM in Capitulo in præsentia Martini Prioris ipsius loci et totius Conventus. Ubi et recepi tunc, et uxor mea mecum, societatem et beneficium loci, et Ecclesiæ Becci cui pertinet Cella illa; pro me, et pro prædictis Dominis et amicis meis. Cujus rei posui, cum uxore mea, donum super majus altare, per unum candelabrum ipsius Ecclesiæ. Testibus &c. (£.)

[Folio 90 b.]

EGO Gilebertus et uxor mea concedimus libere Eccl'æ S̄ci NEOTI, et Monachis &c. . . . duas partes decimæ totius dñi nostri de Wereslai. . . . sicut habuerunt de antecessoribus nostris Toroldo vidt. et Robto Waste, et nominatim recipere ad ostium Grangix nostræ. . . . Testibus &c. in præsentia Martini prædictæ Eccl'æ tunc Prioris, et in præsentia Dñi Engenulfi Monachi. Apud Wereslai, in Buro nostro. (£.)

£.

On a portion of tithes in EYNESBURY, (about A. D. 1202?).

[Folio 89 a.]

NOTUM sit omnibus tam præsentibus quam futuris quod ego Seherius de Q'ncy concedo et confirmo Monachis S̄ci NEOTI decimationes quas antiquitus habuerunt in villa mea de EYNESBIR', sc. tertiam partem decimationis de dominio meo.—His testibus &c.

Composition respecting the tithes of EYNESBURY, (1204).

[Folio 89 a. See also Cartulary of Newnham, MSS. Harl. 3656. f. 56 b.]

NOTUM sit presentibus et futuris, quod causa quæ vertebatur inter Galfridum Priorem et Monachos de S^{co} NEOTO ex una parte, et Scherium de Q^{ncy}. et Radum Priorem et Canonicos de Neweham ex altera parte, super Ecclesiam de EYNESBIR'. . . amicabili Compositione in hunc modum conquievit. Vid'. Quod idem Scherius et hæredes sui presentabunt Clericum in perpetuum ad medietatem garbarum Ecclesiæ de EYNESBIR' et ad terram ipsius Ecclesiæ, et ad omnes obventiones ad altare ipsius Ecclesiæ provenientes. Monachi vero S^{ci} NEOTI aliam medietatem omnium decimarum bladi totius parochiæ integre percipient; sc. totam decimationem terrarum apud WALDE et apud CALDECOT, tam de dñico quam de omnibus aliis terris; et decimationem omnium terrarum apud SUPERIOREM HERDEWIC, præterquam de dñico Scherii; et decimationem de tota porcione Henrici Lancelin, tam de dñico quam de aliis terris; et decimationem de dim' virgat' Nich' Wale, apud RULHO; et medietatem decimationis garbarum de feodo Yvonis Q^{rel}, apud BEREฟอร์ด; et medietatem garbarum de dñico Scherii, apud EYNESBIR'. Salva tamen dictis Monachis tertia garba præfati dñici, quam antiquitus tenuerunt, et tenebunt sicut prius; solvendo, nomine decimarum ad dictam Ecclesiam pertinentium, c solidos Canonicis de Neweham, sicut in Cyrographo inter eos concepto continetur. Residuum vero decimarum percipiet Clericus Scherii; presentatus vero, a Scherio et ab hæredibus suis, juramentum corporaliter præstabit, quod nihil contra prædictam Compositionem machinabitur in præjudicium Monachorum vel Canonicorum, et quod contra detentores decimarum eis justitiæ plenitudinem sine dilatione exhibebit. Hanc Compositionem prædicti Priores et Conventus prædictarum Ecclesiarum in verbo Dñi se observaturos in perpetuum promiserunt, et sigillis suis apposis confirmaverunt. Et Scherius de Quency, pro se et hæredibus suis, hanc Compositionem se fideliter in perpetuum observaturum fore fide interposita promisit, et sigilli sui appositione confirmavit.—Hujus Compositionis hi sunt Testes &c. Hæc Compositio facta fuit, Anno Gratiae 1204; Feria ij^{ta} ante Pentecosten.

D.

On the Church of EYNESBURY (temp. William Rufus?).

[Folio 67 b.]

SIMON Comes omnibus Baronibus suis de Huntingdonesyra, salutem. Sciatis quod ego dedi Deo, et Ecclesiæ S̄ci NEOTI, et Monachis in ea Deo servientibus, pro animabus patris et matris meæ, in perpetuam elemosynam, Ecclesiam S̄cæ Mariæ de ENESBIR' cum omnibus ad eam pertinentibus: Matilda Comitissa uxore mea volente et concedente; et Walefrido Presbytero, qui tune fuit Persona illius Ecclesiæ, nobis consimiliter annuente. . . Testibus &c.

E.

On the Chapel of WEALD, in the parish of EYNESBURY.

[Folio 67 a.]

SCIANT præsentēs, et futuri, quod ego Alanus Dapifer Dominus Waldi, dedi, et concessi, et præsentī cartā meā confirmavi, Deo, et Ecclesiæ S̄ci NEOTI, et Monachis ibidem Deo servientibus, Capellam de Waldo, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis. . . . Ipsi vero Monachi iij diebus in ebdomada in eadem Capella divinum officium facient celebrari.—His Testibus &c.

F.

*On the appropriation of the Church of ST. NEOT'S,
(about A. D. 1183).*

[Folio 37 a.]

OMNIBUS &c. Nichol de Sigillo Archidiaconus Huntendon' salutem. . . . Universitatī vestræ dignum duximus intimandum, venerabilem Dñm nostrum^a Lucium III. Papam hoc

^a The Bull of Pope Lucius was in the Cartulary, as appears by the Index; but the Cartulary having been mutilated, only the subscription remains, "*Datum Velletri*", *Kl. Maij*:" see f. 22 a. line 6., and f. 37a.

misericordia beneficium indulsisse Monachis de S^{co} NEOTO, ut Ecclesias parochiales ad eos pertinentes, decedentibus Clericis, in manu sua libere possint retinere et earum beneficia ad sustentationem Fratrum et hospitum ac pauperum susceptionem integre percipere, electis ab iis Vicariis qui nobis et successoribus nostris debeant presentari. . . .Inde est quod, paternis vestigiis inhaerentes, praedictis Monachis Ecclesiam beatæ Mariæ S^{ci} NEOTI, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, ad praenominatos usus deputatam, concessimus et cartæ nostræ attestatione confirmavimus. Et ne in posterum tam pia dispositio ab aliquibus malitiose possit perturbari, eam sigilli nostri appositione communivimus. Statuentes ut praedicti Monachi, sicut Personæ, de ipsa Ecclesia, et omnibus fructibus ejus, jure personali libere et integre valeant ordinare: salva in omnibus Lincolnensis Ecclesiæ dignitate.—His Testibus &c.

R.

On the Chapel and Chantry of WINTRINGHAM, in the parish of ST. NEOT'S, (A. D. 1218).

[Folio 59 a.]

SCIANT praesentes et futuri, quod ego Willielmus Brito de WINTRINGHAM nec vendico nec unquam vendicabo jus aliquod in Capella de WINTRINGHAM; nec in Cantaria Capellæ quam Dñus meus Rogerus Prior promisit ibidem fieri per Capellanos Ecclesiæ parochialis S^{ci} NEOTI, ad instantiam meam, pro familia mea dum in peregrinatione fuero: nisi de solo beneplacito ipsius, vel successorum suorum, et Conventus S^{ci} NEOTI. Nec et [*iam*] aliquid faciam, nec fieri permittam, quo per aliquem de meis in aliquo minuatursus jus matricis Ecclesiæ S^{ci} NEOTI. Et ne hoc cuiquam veniat in dubium, hanc promissionem, sacramento corporaliter praestito pro me et pro hæredibus meis, et sigilli mei de praesenti scripto dependentis testimonio, confirmavi.—His Testibus: ✠ Waltero, Capellano ejusdem Ecclesiæ; ✠ Riç Gillemor, Capellano; ✠ Riç Palmā; ✠ Alano Presbytero; ✠ Fulç Franç; ✠ Rogo Coco; ✠ Eustachio Herupe; ✠ Waltero Marescall; ✠ Philippo Janitore; ✠ Wiffo de Alnot; et alijs.

L.

On the Church of EVERTON, (between A. D. 1137 and A. D. 1148).

[Folio 73 a.]

GILBERTUS filius G. Comes de Pembro [k] &c., Ep̃o Lincol̃, et Henrico Archid̃ Huntendoñ, cunctisque fidelibus S̃cæ Ecclesiæ, salutem. Sciatis me dedisse Ecclesiam de EUERTON, in elemosynam, Deo, et S̃cō NEOTO, et Monachis meis, perpetualiter possidendam, cum omnibus rebus eidem Ecclesiæ pertinentibus. . . . Hanc donationem confirmavit Dñus Ñr. Teobaldus Archiep̃ Cantuariæ, et Primarius totius Angliæ, in Conventu Londoniensi, coram his Testibus &c.

M.

On the Churches of UBBESTON and HEVENINGHAM, (before A. D. 1198).

[Folio 78 a.]

NOTUM sit præsentibus et futuris, quod ego Walterus filius Roberti dedi Ecclesiam de OBESTONA et Ecclesiam de HENELINGHAMIA Deo, et Ecclesiæ S̃cī NEOTI, et Monachis Beccensibus in ea Deo famulantibus, in perpetuam et puram elemosynam, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis. . . . pro anima Roberti filii Ricardi patris mei ejus corpus ibi requiescit, et pro salute mea, et Matildis uxoris meæ. . . . Hi sunt Testes &c.

P.

On the Church of CRATEFIELD, (between A. D. 1154 and A. D. 1167).

[Folio 79 a.]

WILLIELMUS DE ALBENEIO, filius Matildis de Saint Liz, universis S̃cæ matris Ecclesiæ filiis salutem. Notum sit vobis, quod ego, consilio prudentum hominum et militum meorum, concessi, et hac mea Carta confirmavi, Monachis Becci apud S̃c̃m NEOTUM Deo famulantibus, Ecclesiam de CRATEFELD, cum omnibus eidem Ecclesiæ pertinentibus, in puram et liberam elemosynam. . . . Hujus donationis sunt Testes &c.

⓪ . . . ⓪

*On the Church of BERTON-BENDISH, (about A. D. 1172).
—And on the appropriation of the same, (about A. D. 1177).*

[Folio 77 b.]

SCIANT præsentēs et futuri, quod ego Rogerus de Clara Comes Herefordiæ, concessu filii mei Ricardi, et consilio Baronum meorum, dedi et concessi Ecclesiam de BERTONA, quæ est de feodo meo. . . Monachis Becci apud S̄m NEOTUM. . . Hoc autem feci pro salute mea, et uxoris meæ, et hæredum meorum, et antecessorum meorum qui Monasterium S̄i NEOTI fundaverunt, et suis beneficiis ædificaverunt. . . Testes sunt &c. (⓪.)

[Folio 44 a. b.]

OMNIBUS &c. . . Johannes Dei gratia Norwic' Ep̄s salutem. . . Ad universorum volumus pervenire notitiam nos . . . concessisse dilectis nostris in Christo Monachis de S̄o NEOTO Ecclesiam S̄i Andree in BERTUNNE BENNEDIC, ex donatione nobilis viri Rogeri Comitis de Clara illius Ecclesiæ patroni, in usus proprios cum omnibus ad eandem Ecclesiam pertinentibus perpetuo possidendam; salva pensione Alexandri de Brauncestre illius Ecclesiæ Personæ quamdiu vixerit; salvis et honore et obedientia et reverentia et debetis consuetudinibus S̄æ Norwic' Ecclesiæ, et honesta et sufficiente Vicarii sustentatione qui in memorata Ecclesia ministrabit.—Testibus &c. (⓪.)

P.

On the Church of BEECHAM-WELL, (about A. D. 1172).

[Folio 77 b.]

ROGERUS DE CLARA Comes Herfordiæ omnibus &c. . . Sciatis quod ego dedi Ecclesiam de WELLES, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, . . Deo, et S̄æ Mariæ, et Monachis S̄i NEOTI, pro animabus antecessorum meorum, et pro salute mea et hæredum meorum, in liberam et puram elemosynam. Quare volo ut prædicti Monachi habeant et possideant præfatam Ecclesiam plenarie et integre, quietam ab omni servitio et exactione.—His Testibus &c.



On the Church of WING, (A. D. 1245).

[Folio 92 a.]

SCIANT præsentēs et futuri, quod ego PETRUS DE MONTEFORTI, filius Thurstini de Monteforti, concessi et confirmavi Ecclesiæ S̄ci NEOTI. . . omnes terras &c. . . in villa de WENGE, cum advocacione Ecclesiæ ejusdem villæ, quæ antecessores mei dederunt. . . Præsens scriptum sigilli mei impressione roboravi. Pro hac concessione et confirmatione dedit mihi Hugo, tunc Prior S̄ci NEOTI, vi marcas argenti. Actum apud P^oston, Anno Gratiae 1245, die decollationis S̄ci Johannis Baptistæ.—His Testibus &c.



On the appropriation of HEMINGTON (about A. D. 1173).

[Folio 40 b.]

UNIVERSIS S̄cæ matris Ecclesiæ filiis Adam Decanus de Tichmer' salutem in Dño. Universitati vestræ notificetur, me, ex suscepto mandato G[alfridi?] Lincol' Ecclesiæ electi, in Capitulo apud Vnde [Oundle], H[erbertum] Priorem et Monachos S̄ci NEOTI in Ecclesiam de Hemingetona introduxisse, et eos in plenariam misisse possessionem. Ita quod Rogerus Presbyter de Hemingetona in vita sua illam nomine Monachorum possidebit; . . . post decessum vero ipsius, in subjectionem et dispositionem Monachorum prædictorum præfata redibit Ecclesia.—His Testibus &c.



On the Churches of E. BOSCOMBE, W. CHELDRETON, COTESFORD, and EDWORTH, (about A. D. 1178).

[Folio 57 a.]

ROGERUS BURNARD omnibus &c. . . Notum sit vobis me concessisse, et carta mea confirmasse, Monachis de S̄co NEOTO, Ecclesiam de BOSCOMBE, et Ecclesiam de CHEL-

DEETON, et Ecclesiam de GODSFORD, et Ecclesiam de EDDEWRTHA, cum omnibus ad easdem Ecclesias pertinentibus, in perpetuam et liberam elemosynam; pro animabus patris et matris meæ, quorum corpora ibi requiescunt; et pro salute mea et hæredum meorum. Quare volo &c. . . His Testibus &c.



On the Church of TEMSFORD, (A. D. 1129).

[Folio 83 a.]

MILLESSIMO centesimo vigesimo nono ab Incarnatione Dñi Anno, xvij Kal. Maij, secunda feria Paschæ, regnante Henrico Rege, Robertus de Carun. . . dedit Deo, et Scæ Mariæ Beccæ, et Scto NEOTO, . . . Crucem et v Imagines de dispensatione passionis Dñi nostri Jhesu Christi; et quum Anselmus Sacerdos nepos Roberti de Carun Monachatum suscepit, tunc concessit cum eo finaliter Ecclesiam de TAMSEFORD quam tenuit. . . Testes hujus rei &c.



On the Appropriation of the Church of TURVEY, A. D. 1194.

[Folio 40 a.]

UNIVERSIS Scie matris Ecclesiæ filiis &c. . . Hugo Dei gratia Lincolniensis Eps salutem. . . Noverit universitas vestra, nos, de assensu Rog' Decani et Capituli nostri Lincolniæ, . . . dedisse et concessisse Priori et Conventui Scti NEOTI, nomine perpetui beneficii, medietatem Ecclesiæ de TORVEYA quæ est de eorum advocacione, in forma subscripta; vidt. quod teneant in proprios usus totam decimationem garbarum de dominicis Hugonis de Alneto et Willelmi Mainsel, et decimas de Curia dicti Prioris in eadem villa, et medietatem garbarum totius residui ejusdem parochiæ. . . Reliquam vero medietatem Ricardus de Whestun Clericus, quem ad eorum præsentationem admisimus, et successores sui, . . . integre et perpetuo possidebunt. . . Et ut hæc nostra concessio perpetuam obtineat firmitatem, præsentī scripto sigillum nostrum una cum sigillo Capituli nostri Lincolniensis duximus apponendum.—His Testibus, &c.

v. . . . iii.

On some Fisheries in the OUSE.

[Folio 67 a.]

SCIANT præsentēs et futuri, quod ego Willielmus de Subir' dedi. . . . Deo, et Ecclesiæ S̄ci NEOTI, et Monachis ibidem Deo servientibus. . . . partem illam de Aqua USÆ quam ego et antecessores mei habuimus ubicunque terra mea contingit Aquam illam. Ita ut nulli ex hominibus meis vel alii alicui liceat ingredi prædictam Aquam quæ USA dicitur, absque licentia prædictorum Monachorum, ad piscandum in illa. . . . His Testibus &c. (v)

[Folio 82 a.]

SCIANT præsentēs et futuri, quod ego Hugo de Bello-campo filius Oliveri de Bellocampo dedi. . . . Ecclesiæ S̄ci NEOTI et Monachis ibidem Deo servientibus. . . . partem illam Aquæ quam ego et antecessores mei habuimus in Aqua quæ dicitur USA, ubicunque terra mea jacet contra terram eorum, ab Aqua quæ dicitur HOLEBECKE usque ad SUBIR'; et præterea illam partem meam Aquæ ab HOLEBECKE usque ad STAGNUM de EYNESBIRIA. Quare volo. . . . ut nullus ex piscatoribus meis vel aliis hominibus meis intret de cætero prædictam Aquam ad piscandum in ea, nisi per licentiam prædictorum Monachorum.—His Testibus, &c. (iii)

x.

On some Fisheries at WELL.

[Folio 23 a.]

ECCLESIA S̄ci NEOTI habet apud WELLES tertiam partem illius Aquæ quæ vocatur BATELBECHIA, et piscaturarum ejus; et omnium Lacuum, sc. perpetuarum Aquarum quæ pertinent ad ipsam, similiter tertiam partem. Habet et illam Aquam totam quæ dicitur ALGARESHE, et omnes perpetuas Aquas quæ pertinent ad illam. Habet et medietatem illius Aquæ quæ vocatur MENWERE; et omnium Aquarum quæ ad illam pertinent, similiter medietatem. Habet quoque quartam partem illius Aquæ quæ dicitur WILLAC; et illarum Aquarum quæ ad illam pertinent similiter quartam partem:

quæ WILLAC pertinet ad WISEBECHIAM. De EUERDWIC quartam noctem, et quicquid ad eam pertinet. De HADCHETE medietatem, et quæ illi pertinent. De FORDWERE FULLEBIGDEL et VTMESTEBECHE quartam partem, et quæ illi pertinent. De VSEWARDEBECHE octavam partem, et medietatem WADESGATE. De TWILESWERE octavam partem, et quæ illi pertinent.—Has Piscaturas habet Ecclesia S^ci NEOTI de antiquitate, et etiam ex dono Rohais uxoris Ricardi filii Comitis Gilleberti.—Habet et ex dono Regⁿi filii Godlemon de Welles quartam partem de NEWERE super ASMERE. Ex dono Osberti filii Roberti octavam partem de DEPEWERE, et octavam partem de THEREWERE.

D.

Charter of Henry I., for a Fair at ST. NEOT'S.

[Folio 45 b.]

HENRICUS Rex &c. . . . Sciatis me concessisse Priori et Monachis S^ci NEOTI de ERNOLUESB⁹IA ut habeant Feriam iij diebus; videlicet, in vigilia et in die festi S^ci NEOTI, [et in die subsequenti^a], cum talibus consuetudinibus quales habeo in meis Feriis. Et homines illuc venientes [*et*] redientes cum omnibus rebus suis firmam pacem meam habeant, ne [*nec*] aliquis eis injuriam vel contumeliam faciat.—Testibus &c.

Z.

Charter of Henry II., for a Market at ST. NEOT'S.

[Folio 47 a.]

HENRICUS Rex &c. . . . Sciatis me concessisse et confirmasse in perpetuam elemosynam Deo, et Ecclesiæ beatæ Mariæ Becci, et Priori et Monachis S^ci NEOTI qui manent in villa quæ vocatur ERNULFEBURIA, ut in eadem villa ERNULFEBURIA habeant singulis septimanis unum Mercatum ad diem Jovis. Et volo &c. . . . et prohibeo ne quis eos inde injuste vexet, vel disturbet.—Testibus &c.

^a Supplied from a similar charter of Henry II., fol. 46 b.

No. XVII.

*Abstract of the Titles of Deeds contained in the Cartulary
of the Sacristan of St. NEOT's Priory.*

[MSS. Stowe, Press III. No. 88.]

Registrum Cartar' Sacristar' S̄ci Neotí, f̄m̄ ad festum
Anūciacionis S̄te Marie, Anno Incarnacōis Dñi M̄.
CC. octog' sexto, temp̄e f̄ris Will' le Caron de Becco tunc
Sac̄ste.

I. DE VILLA S̄CI NEOTI.

- | | |
|---|--|
| C. Withi Prioris et Conven- | C. Withi de Evertona. [12.] |
| tus de S̄co Neoto ad Os- | C. Johis de Sondeia. [13.] ^A b. |
| bertum Sley. [1 ^a .] | C. Isoldis la Brut. [14.] |
| C. Hugonis P. de S. N. ad Ro- | C. Withi de Albeni. [15—24.] |
| b ^o tum de Gamelegye. [2.] | C. Arnaldi de Anno. [25.] |
| C. Rogeri P. de S. N. ad | C. Albeni Pain. [26.] |
| Withm Fullonem. [3.] | C. Withi Delamore. [27.] |
| C. Hugonis P. de S. N. [4.] | C. Albeni filii Pagani. [28.] |
| C. Hugonis de Bellocampo. | C. Eliæ Gillemore. [29.] |
| [5.] | C. Withi Aurifabri de S̄co |
| C. Rob ^o ti Cissoris de Forda. | Neoto. [30.] ^D . |
| [6.] | C. Amiciæ Sororis Oseb ^o ti |
| C. Withi Fullonis de S. | Vicecomitis. [31.] |
| Neoto. [7.] | C. Riçi de Bedeforda. [32.] ^B . |
| C. Adæ de Bolnihurst. [8.] | C. Withi Jurdan de Forda. |
| C. Osberti Hog. [9.] | [33.] |
| C. Agnetis quondam uxoris | C. Prioris Rogeri et Con- |
| Os ^o ti Hog. [10.] | ventus de S. N. ad Petrum |
| C. Withi de Albeni. [11.] | Curlin. [34.] |

II. DE FORDA.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| C. Hug' de Bellocampo. [35.] | C. ejusdem. [39.] |
| C. Heliæ Gillemore. [36.] | C. Riçi Mathu de Forda. |
| C. Riçi Aurifabri de S̄co | [40—41.] |
| Neoto. [37.] | C. Johis de S. N. ad Withm |
| C. Withi Dauno. ^C . [38.] | Braciatorem. [42.] |

* Neither the Deeds, nor the Folios, are numbered in the MS.

^b The Letters ^A, ^B, ^C, &c. refer to the Deed as extracted in No. XVIII.

III. DE ETONA.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| C. Willi de Albeni. [43.] | C. Willi de Etona. [45.] |
| C. Willi Rungeferi. [44.] | C. Willi de Albeni. [46.] |

IV. DE DEVELHO.

- | | |
|--|---|
| C. Rogeri Prioris de Sancto
Neoto ad Johem de No-
ville. [47.] & | C. Johis de Noville. [48.]
C. Radulphi fil' Rogeri. [49.]
C. Stephani de Neutone. [50.] |
|--|---|

V. DE STAFELHO.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| C. Galfridi de Teil. [51.] | C. altera ejusdem. [52.] |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|

VI. DE COLMORDE.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| C. Odonis le Chanu. [53.] | C. Sabinæ filia Odonis le
Chanu. [55.] |
| C. Simonis le Chanu. [54.] | |

VII. DE WIBOLDISTONE.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| C. Hugonis de Bellocampo.
[56.] | C. Hugonis de Veteri Ponte
[57, 58.] |
|------------------------------------|---|

VIII. DE CHALVESTERNE.

- | | |
|---|--|
| C. Radi filii Gileb ^o ti de
Chalvesterne. [59.] | Chalvesterne. [60—62.]
C. Walteri filii Aufridi de
Chalvesterne. [63.] |
| C. Rogeri filii Bernardi, de | |

IX. DE COLESDENE.

- | | |
|---|---|
| C. Radi fil' Gileberti. [64.] | C. Willi de Colesden. [66.] |
| Carta Amabiliæ de Rokes-
dona. [65.] | Carta Amabiliæ de Rokes-
dona. [67.] |

X. DE ROKESDONA.

- C. Jordani de Wiledene. [68.] C. Gimerii Sacristæ de
 Sancto Neoto, ad Ansel'
 C. Sabinæ filiaë Henrici. [69.] de Midletona. [70.]

XI. DE TEMESEFORDA.

- C. Wiffi Pioris et Convent⁹ Albeni. [72.]
 de S̄co Neoto, ad Thomā C. Wiffi filii Nichi de The-
 filiū Walteri. [71.] meseforda. [73—75.]
 C. Wiffi filii Nichi de The- C. H..... Pioris de S. N. ad
 meseforda ad Wiffm de Wiffm de Herdwik. [76]

XII. DE CALDECOTE.

- C. Gaufridi P. de S. N. ad C. Stephani Launcelyn. [79.]
 Riçum fil' Pagani. [77.] C. Gauf' de Britewill. [80.]
 C. Raði filii Deriene de Cal- C. Heliwisæ et Albredæ filiaꝝ
 decote. [78.] Riçi filii Pagani. [81.]

XIII. DE HERDWIK.

Conventio inter Ricardum de Gloucestre, Sacristam de S̄co
 Neoto, et Willielmum Ordbar de Herdewik. [82.]

XIV. DE WESTONEMADE.

- C. Willielmi de Bures. [83.] C. Hug' de Bellocampo. [84.]

XV. DE BICHAMSTEDE.

Carta Willielmi Quarel, de messuagio in Bichamstede. [85.]

XVI. DE BEDEFORDE.

Carta Magñi Rogeri de Kemistone, de xij^d annui redd. [86.]

XVII. DE HUNTINDONA.

Carta Roberti Hardi. [87.] C. Ferri filii Thomæ [88.]

XVIII. DE CRATEFEUD.

Carta Willielmi de Albeni, de ij^s. annui redditus percipiendis de tenemento Willielmi filii Arnaldi. [89.]

XIX. DE DYNESLEE.

Carta Matildæ de Lovcot, de ij^s. annui redditus percipiendis de terra sua quam tenuit Wilts Bunda. [90.]

XX. DE EVERTONA.

Carta Walteri de S^{co} Brevello ad Sacristam, de donatione illius messuagii cum toto crofto in Evertona q' jacet inter messuagium Gumulde Chanterel et messuagium Ead' filii Godefridi. [91.]

XXI. DE PARVA PAXTONA.

Carta Alani filii Hugonis, de donatione in Paxtona. [92.]

XXII. DE STONI STRATFORDE.

Carta Willi filii Hamonis, de donatione in Stratforde. [93.]

XXIII. DE BUKESWORDE.

Carta Feliciæ quōdam uxoris Ham' de Bukesworde. [94.] *℥*.

XXIV. DE ALBOLDESLEE.

Carta Hugonis Cuneyn de donat' in Alboldeslee. [95.]



No. XVIII.

*Extracts from the Cartulary belonging to the Sacristan of
ST. NEOT'S Priory.*

[MSS. Stowe, Press III. No. 88.]

A.

*For a Wax-light^a before the Great Crucifix in the Con-
ventual Church of ST. NEOT.*

SCIANT præsentēs et futuri, quod ego Johannes de Sondaia dedi, concessi &c. Deo, et beatæ Mariæ, et Sacristæ Ecclesiæ Conventualis S̄ci NEOTI, quoddam messuagium meum in villa de S̄co NEOTO, in auxilium sustentationis cujusdam Cerei ardentis in perpetuum coram Majori Crucifixo in Ecclesia S̄ci NEOTI, singulis diebus per annum, dum cantatur Missa matutinalis beatæ Mariæ; et ad duplicia festa dum cantatur magna Missa; habendum et tenendum in liberam, puram, et perpetuam elemosynam. . . . His Testibus; ✠ Henrico de Faffington; et aliis multis.

B.

*For a Wax-light^a before the Crucifix on the south side of
the Conventual Church.*

SCIANT præsentēs et futuri, quod ego Ricardus de Bedeforde dedi, concessi, et hac præsentī cartā meā confirmavi, Deo, et Ecclesiæ S̄ci NEOTI, ad Luminare ante Crucem quæ est versus Australem in eadem Ecclesia, xij denarios redditus annui His Testibus; ✠ Riço, ✠ Alano, ✠ Waltero, Capellanis de S̄co NEOTO; et aliis.

^a "Under the Reformation", says the Historian Fuller, in his humorous style, "MORE LIGHT AND FEWER CANDLES!" [Fuller's Waltham Abbey, p. 16. edit. 1655.]—Equally just (though less refined) was the satirical remark of a plain countryman, "one Alexander Allisonne", at Abbotsley in Huntingdonshire, in the reign of bloody Mary: having "detained from the Vicar a payment for two Candles", he was reported to Cardinal Pole for the contemptuous Protestant remark "that A WISER VICAR THAN YEE WILL NOT REQUIRE THEM!" [Cardinal Pole's Visitation for the Diocese of Lincoln, Aug. 1556: preserved in Fox's MSS.; and printed in Strype's Memorials, Vol. III. p. 177.]

C.

*For Wax-lights before the Crucifix, the Shrine of NEOT,
and the Altar of the Virgin.*

SCIANT præsentēs et futuri, quod ego, Willielmus Dauno dedi &c. . . . redditum xvij denariorum; videl' ad Luminare sustinendum in Ecclesia S̄ci NEOTI; vj denarios inde ad Luminare ante Crucem, et vj denarios ante Feretrum, et vj denarios ante Altare beatæ Mariæ.—His Testibus &c.

D.

For a Wax-light before the Shrine of NEOT.

SCIANT præsentēs et futuri, quod ego Willielmus Auri-faber vendidi Willielmo de Albeneio ij acras terræ in campis S̄ci NEOTI.....quas acras præfatus Willielmus dedit Deo, et Sacristariæ S̄ci NEOTI, in auxilium inveniendi unum Cereum continuo ardentem ante Feretrum S̄ci NEOTI,..... His Testibus; ✠ Riço P'sb̄ro, filio meo; et aliis.

E.

For a Lamp before the Image of the Virgin.

NOVERINT omnes. . . .quod ego Rogerus Prior de S̄co NEOTO et totus ejusdem loci Conventus, concessimus Johanni de Novill Clerico illos v solidos annuos quos Alanus Gery nobis debet de terra sua apud Deuelho, ad convertendos eos Sacristariæ nostræ ad sustentandam in perpetuum Lampadem unam ardentem, tempore ecclesiastici servitii tam de die quam de nocte, coram Imagine gloriosi Virginis genetricis Dei Mariæ in Ecclesia nostra S̄ci NEOTI. . . . Hoc autem, ne cuiquam venire possit in dubium, testimonio præsentis sigilli nostri de communi assensu duximus confirmandum. Volūmus etiam ut cum Lampade illa Cereum procuret [*sc. Sacrista*], quod ritu perpetuo in majoribus festis ibidem ardeat ad majorem Missam, et tam ad matutinas quam ad vesp̄as, et singulis diebus ad Missam de S̄ca Maria.



Deed of Felicia de Buckworth conveying Henry Dore, a Villein, to the Sacristan of ST. NEOT'S, A. D. 1235.

SCIANT præsentēs et futuri, quod ego Felicia quondam uxor Henrici de Buckesworde, in mea libera voluntate constituta, dedi, et concessi, et hac præsentī mea carta confirmavi, Deo, et S̄co NEOTO, et ejusdem Ecclesiæ Sacristæ quicumque pro tempore fuerit, Henricum Dore, filium Ivonis Dore, nativum meum, in perpetuum, cum omni sequela sua et cum omnibus ex ipso provenientius. . . . Præsentī scripto sigillum meum apposui. Datum Anno Gratiae 1235, die S̄ci Michaelis.—His Testibus; ✠ Helia Gillemor, Capellano; et multis aliis.

NO. XIX.

Bull of Pope Alexander III., confirming the Churches of BERTON-BENDISH, BOSCOMBE, CHELDRETON, and COTSFORD, together with property at NEWENTON and BUCKWORTH, to the Monks of ST. NEOT'S; about A. D. 1175.

[a Autograph, MSS. British Museum, Harleian Charters XLIII. A. 21.]

ALEXANDER ēps servus servoz dei. Dilectis filiis [Herberto?] Priori 7 Fr̄ibus S̄ci Neoti. salutē. 7 ap̄licam b̄n̄. Justis petentium desideriiis dignū est nos facilem prebere consensum. 7 uota que a rationis tramite non discordant. effectu p̄ sequente cōplere. Ea pp̄ dilecti in d̄no fili. uestris iustis postulationibus grato concurrentes assensu. Eccl̄as de Bertoñ. 7 de Bascūbe. 7 de Cheldretona. 7 de Cotesford. cum suis ptinentiis. cum assensu ep̄i rationabiliter uobis collatas. 7 unum Molendinum in Neuwenton. ex dono W. filii Robti. 7 tres uirgatas fr̄e. in Buckeswrda. sic ea iuste 7 pacifice possidetis. uobis. 7 p̄ uos eccl̄ie uestre auctoritate apostolica confirmam⁹. 7 presentis scripti patrocinio cōm-

^a The Seal is gone.—On the outside is written "II. Romanor' Pontificum." and "Confirmation of Churches and Landes to the Priorey of St. Neots."

unim⁹. Statuentes. ut nulli omnino hominum liceat hanc paginā nostre confirmationis infringere. uel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autē hoc attemptare p̄sumpserit. indignationem omnipotentis dei. 7 beatorū Petri 7 Pauli ap̄loz eius se nouerit incursurum. Dat. Tusculan. iij. kl. Sept.

No. XX.

Bull of Pope Celestine III., confirming the Churches of EYNESBURY and TURVEY to the Monks of ST. NEOTS; A. D. 1194.

[^b Autograph, MSS. British Museum, Cotton Charters XII. 39.]

CELESTINUS ep̄s seruus seruorum dei. ven̄abili fr̄i. [Hugoni] Lincomen ep̄o. salt et ap̄licam b̄n. Sacrosca Romana ecclia deuotos et humiles filios exassuete pietatis officio propensius diligere cōsueuit. et ne prauorum hominum illicitis grauiamibus molestetur. eos protectionis sue munimine tanquam pia mater solita est cōfouere. Vnde quia singulis ad nos clamantib⁹ ap̄licam tenemur presidium inptiri. Intuitu pietatis et misericordie [Galfrido?] Priori et Conuentuj S̄ci Neotj. eccliam de Esnebia. et eccliam de Torueia. de q̄bus iam annuam pensioē acceperunt presentj pagina confirmamus. Siquidem predicti Prior et Conuent⁹ in transitu uiarum et strata celeberrima constituti. omnib⁹ transeuntib⁹ cibum et potum petentib⁹ pro dei misericordia largiuntur. et redditu⁹ predictarum eccliarum proprio usui hospitum se expendere profitentur. Ea ppter fraternitati ur̄e per ap̄lica scripta p̄cipiendo mandamu⁹ q̄tin⁹ p̄ reuerētia beatorū ap̄loz Petri 7 Pauli 7 n̄ra. p̄nominatis P̄ori 7 Cūentuj predictas ecclias sicut eas iuste 7 rationabiliter possideant. 7 p̄sentis scripti sunt cōmuniti. appellatione remota. 7 nullis lit̄is^c obstantib⁹ in pace possidere p̄mittatis. 7 a decan̄is ab archidiacon̄is 7 ab oib⁹ hominum officialiū insolentis. auctoritate beati Petri 7 n̄ra. p̄munitos defensetis. 7 si quis hui⁹modi cōfirmationi 7 p̄dictis P̄ori 7 Cōuentuj in hoc p̄sūperit contradicere. auctoritate n̄ra excommunicatū publice denūtiētis. Dat. Rom ap̄d S̄cm Petrū. xij. kl. decēbris. Pontificatu⁹ n̄ri anno quarto.

^b The Seal is gone — On the back is written “Romanorū Pontificum. j.”; and “Introdueta Julij A^o 1537. Neotes.”

^c So in MS.; intended for lit̄is.

No. XXI.

Survey of the Manors of EYNESBURY and ST. NEOT'S,
A. D. 1086.

A.

[Domesday Book, Vol. II. f. 206 b. ; Chapter House, Westminster.]

TERRA JVDITE COMITISE *TOLESLVND HVND'*.

ƿ In *EINVLVESBERIE*. h̄b rex Edw'. ix. hid' ad gl̄d. T^ora. xxviii. cañ. Ibi n̄c in dñio. iiii. cañ h̄t comitissa. 7 xxxiiii. uilt 7 viii. bord'. h̄ntes. xxviii. car'. Ibi æccta 7 p̄br. 7 ii. molini. xxxii. solidoz. 7 lx. ac siluæ past'. In ead' uilla est qđdā ouile sexcent' 7 lxii. ouīū. 7 lx. ac p^{ti}. qđ ded' comitissa ad s̄cam Helenā. Valet. lxx. solidos. ^{pbr'}

De sup^{dictis}. ix. hid' tenet de comitissa Gisleb̄t^o ii. hidas. 7 ibi h̄t in dñio. ii. cañ. 7 viii. ac^s p^{ti}. Valet. xl. soł.

De ead' t̄ra h̄t Alan^o dapifer ej^o. ii. hid' de ea Ibi sunt ii. bord'. 7 uat. x. soł.

T. R. E. uat ƿ. xx. liḡ m̄ dñium comitissæ uat. xiiii. liḡ. 7 xii. soł.

B.

[Domesday Book, Vol. II. f. 207 a. ; Chapter House, Westminster.]

TERRA ROTHAI^{is} VNORIS RICARD^{is}. *TOLESLVND HVND'*.

ƿ In *EINVLVESBERIE* h̄b Robtus fili^o Wimarch xv. hid' ad gl̄d. T^ora. xxvii. cañ. Ibi n̄c Rohais uxor Ricardi h̄t in dñio. vii. cañ.

Ibidē h̄t S' Neot^o de ea. iiii. cañ in dñio. 7 ^{'n ipsa uilla} xix. uilt 7 v. bord' h̄ntes. vii. cañ. Ibi. i. moliñ. xxiii. solidoz. 7 i. picariā q^e app̄ciat' cū Manerio. 7 lxv. 7 dim' ac^s p^{ti}. T. R. E. uat. xx. iiii. liḡ. m̄ xxi. liḡ. p̄ter uictū monachoz qⁱ app̄ciat'. iiii. liḡ.

De ead' t̄ra tenet Wiffs britō. ii. hid' 7 i. uirg' de ea. 7 h̄t in dñio dimid'. cañ. 7 iii. uilt 7 iiii. bord' cū. i. car'. Valet. xxx. solid'.

No. XXII.

Privileges of the Prior of ST. NEOT'S, in the toren and manor of ST. NEOT'S, A. D. 1286.

[Roll "Quo Waranto", Chapter House, Westminster, 14 Edw. I., Com' Hunt' m. 4.—Published in the printed Record (edit. 1818) p. 301.]

PRIOR DE S^{co} NEOTO [*Johannes de Bosco-Reynoldi?*] sum' fuit ad respondend' d^{no} Regi de p^lito quo wa^{ro} clam' h^{re} visum f^{nci} pⁱ meatu & seriam in villa S^{ci} NEOTI et visum f^{nci} plegii in CRANDON' Et catalla h^oium suoz dāpnatoz et amiciamenta h^oium suoz p quacūq; causa fuerint amciati Et quo wa^{ro} clam' p se & hominibus suis tē qⁱetus de sectis shiraz & hundroz murdro & aliis regalibz prestaconibz que ad ipm Regem & Coronam suam ptinent sine licencia & voluntate &c.

Et Prior venit et dicit qd tota villa S^{ci} NEOTI & villa de CRANDON' sunt de feodo suo et clamat h^{re} p^{de}cum visum de omnibz comorantibz in p^{de}cis villis et tenet visum suū bis p annū et sine s^viente Regis et nichil dat d^{no} Regi p p^{de}co visu Requis' si h^{eat} furcas tumber' pillor' dicit qd h^{et} illa judicialia in villa S^{ci} NEOTI Et quesitus de quibz articlis inquit in visu suo et quot h^{et} decennarios dicit qd inquit de articlis de quibz Vic' inquit in t^{nu} suo Et dicit qd d^{ns} Henr' Rex secundus concessit Abbtⁱ & Monachis de Becco qd h^{eat} & teneant omēs pos^{ss}ones et elemosinas suas libas solutas & qⁱetas cū soka saka tol & theam & infangenthes et utfangenthes cū omnibz libtatibz et libis consuetudinibz suis de shiris & hundris p^litis et quere^t murdro et de wappentak Et qd h^{eat} catalla h^oium suoz fugitioz utlagatoz et amiciamentaz oⁱum h^oium suoz p quacūq; causa amciatoz Dat' p manū Regis apud Westm' iij^{to} die Maij anno r' sui t^{cesimo} septio Quam quidem cartam pfert et que hoc idem testatur Et dicit qd i^pe et omēs p^{de}c' sui Priores de S^{co} NEOTO a tēpe quo non extat memoria hucusq; semp huerunt & tenuunt p^{de}m visum Dicit eciam qd est Monachus de Becco^e et qd Prioratus suus spectat ad Ab-

* The dependency of the Priory of St. Neot's upon the Abbot of Bec is thus stated in a subsequent Inquisition (A. D. 1330) :—"Ric'us de Aldeburgh, qui sequit' pro d^{no} Rege, dicit q'd p^{de}cus Prior de Sco Neoto [CLEMENS?] est Prior datus et amobilis ad voluntatem Abbatis de Becco Herlewini; p' q'd idem Prior ad aliquas lib'tates clamand' admitti non debet &c."—Roll Quo War., 4 Edw. III., Com' Bedif' roll 26 (back), p. 55. of the printed Record.

baeyam de Becco unde dicit qđ p pđcam cartam & similiē p longam seis^m suam clam' hēre pđcam visum et p pđcam cartam clam' hēre pđca amciamenta catalla & pđcas quietancias Et quo ad mcatū in villa Sēi NEOTI dicit qđ H. Rex p^mus concessit Monach Sēi NEOTI unū mcatū in villa que antiquit⁹ vocabat^r ERNULPHIBERIA et que modo vocat^r villa Sēi NEOTI p diē Jovis p cartam ipiūs H. quam pfert et que hoc testat^r Et quo ad feriā dicit qđ fiet feriam p tres vices p annū videt⁹ vigilia die & in crastino Ascenōis dñi et similiē in vigilia die et in crastino Sēi Petri ad vincēa Et dicit qđ ipe et omēs pdec' sui a tēpe quo non extat memoria hucusq³ semp huerunt et tenunt pđcam feriam et hoc modo pređco Et sup hoc pfert cartam H. Regis p^mi in qua continent^r hec vba p^cipio qđ faciatis Monachos Sēi NEOTI hēre de illis qui ad mcatū suū et ad feriam suam veniunt theoloniū et stallagiū et omēs alias rectas consuetudines suas quas hēo in meis dñicis mcatīs Dicit msup qđ fuit alias cartas regias que amisse sunt et depdite infra jam viginti annis elapsis q^ondo campanar' ecclie sue corruiit unde dic' qđ tali waō clam' hēre pđcas libtates Et idō quo ad mcatu sine die ad presens salvo &c.

Et Gilbtus de Thornton' qui sequit^r p dño Rege petit qđ carte dñi Regis p ipm Regem & consiliū suū judicent^r ad cui⁹ modi libtates se possint extēde Et similiē si p^cipiat ad sec^arium catalla & amciamenta pđca Et sup hoc datus est ei dies in Sec^aio in crastino Sēi Andree &c. Ad quē diē venit pđcs Prior p attorn' suū & q³ juđm nondum fēm est dat⁹ est ei dies in Octab Pur' Bē Mar' in Sec^aio &c. Postea a die Pasch in unū mensem quē diē fuit p cōem pelam' venit pđcs Prior p attorn' suū Et q³ juđm nōdum fēm est dat⁹ est ei dies hic a die Sēi Michis in xv dies &c. Ad quē diē venit pđcs Prior p attorn' suū Et dat⁹ est ei dies a die Pasch in xv dies &c. Ad quem diē ven' pđcs Prior p attorn' suū & datus est ei dies hic a die Sēi Michis in xv dies &c. Deinde dat⁹ est dies a die Pasch in xv dies &c. Deinde dat⁹ est ei dies hic in Octab Sēi Mich.

No. XXIII.

Valuation of the Priory of ST. NEOT, A. D. 1291.

[^aEcclesiastical Taxation of Pope Nicholas, 19 Edw. I.: *see the printed Record* (edit. 1808), pp. 15, 18, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 42, 48, 49, 51, 52, 67, 73, 88, 92, 101, 104, 118, 127, 256, 267, 268, 269. Compared with the ^bEcclesiastical Taxation, 1 Ric. II.; in the *Cartulary of St. Neot's*, MSS. Cotton Faustina A. IV. ff. 35 b.—36 b.]

PRIORATUS S̄CI NEOTI.

Prior S̄ci Neoti h̄t in	£.	s.	d.
S̄co Neoto man'ir' et valet cu' suis hamelett'	64	7	6
Haylweston in mol' & redd'	0	6	0
Middleho [<i>Middleho</i>] in redd'	0	1	0
Bukewrth in redd'	0	5	0
Wersle de redd'	0	14	4
Offord Daey in t̄ris	0	10	0
Ov'ton [<i>Ev'ton</i>] in t̄ris redd' cur' & fruct' āial'	3	15	0
Magna Stotton in redd'	0	5	0
Eton de redd'	1	16	8
Bedenho 'Thornecote Weston' [<i>Beston?</i>] Gretford [<i>Girtford</i>] Kynmūdeswyk in redd'	0	15	9 ¹ / ₂
Temesford in t̄ris redd' p̄tis & cur'	2	16	4
Bluhm in t̄ris redd' & cur'	5	12	11
Bereford in t̄ris redd' p̄tis	1	10	0
Turveye in t̄ris p̄tis redd' curr'	3	10	9
Bedeford [<i>Rokesdon</i>] de redd'	0	7	0
Caxton	4	3	4
Brunne [<i>Bourne</i>]	5	3	0
Gamelingeeye	2	2	4
Abinton	0	2	0
Barveton	0	6	8

* The precise order of occurrence in the Taxation Roll has been neglected.

^b This Valuation corresponds with that of Pope Nicholas, excepting one or two slight variations.

^c *Cartulary of St. Neot's*, MSS. Cotton Faustina A. IV. f. 36 a.

Decanatu de Roteland [<i>Wing?</i>] . . .	7	0	0
Wymbiss de redd'	1	8	0
Upwell et Utwell de redd'	1	0	0
Cratfeld de redd'	0	2	0
Berton de redd'	2	1	6
P'och' S̄ci Steph̄i [<i>Norwic'</i>]	0	1	0
Pens' Monachor' de S̄co Neoto in			
Temeseford [<i>Eccl'ia de</i>]	4	0	0
Bernewelle [<i>Eccl'ia de</i>]	3	0	0
Clopton [<i>Eccl'ia de</i>]	1	0	0
Brampton [<i>Dingley</i>] Eccl'ia de	5	0	0
Croxtan in dec'	1	13	4
Wymbiss [<i>Eccl'ia de</i>]	4	0	0
Porcō Prioris de S̄co Neoto in			
S̄ci Neoti, Eccl'ia de	21	6	8
Eynesbur' ^d , Eccl'ia de	6	13	4
Evertone ^e , Eccl'ia de	11	6	8
Grantescere [<i>Granchester</i>]	2	0	0
Heveningham [<i>Eccl'ia de</i>]	1	0	0
Ubbestone [<i>Eccl'ia de</i>]	6	13	4
Cratefelde [<i>Eccl'ia de</i>]	14	0	0
Bycham' Well [<i>Eccl'ia de</i>]	0	4	0
Berton S̄ci Andr' [<i>Berton-Bendish</i>] . .	13	6	8
Hemington ^e , Eccl'ia de	6	13	4
Pokbrok, Eccl'ia de	1	0	0
Bernewell	1	0	0
Turveye, Eccl'ia de	8	13	4
Bereford	0	6	8
Wylle [<i>Decan' de Baldok</i>]	1	6	8
Sacrista S̄ci Neoti h't in Hunt' de redd' .	0	2	0
Precentor ejusdem Domus h't in S̄co Neoto			
in redd'	0	16	0
Elemosinar' ejusdem Domus h't ibidem de			
redd'	0	8	6
Refector' ejusdem Domus h't ibidem de redd'	0	5	6
<hr/>			
† Summa Totalis, £	225	19	2
<hr/>			

^d Gynesbur', in the *Tax. Eccl.*; Ⓔ having been mistaken for Ⓔ.

^e Not specified as belonging to the Convent in the *Tax. Eccl.*; but see the *Cartulary of St. Neot's* f. 36 a.

^f The Items being dispersed, no Total appears in the Taxation.

No. XXIV.

Account of Stock, on the demesne farms of TURVEY and BARFORD, Bedfordshire, belonging to the Prior of ST. NEOT'S, in trust for the Abbot of Bec, A. D. 1294.

[Exchequer Records respecting the Alien Priories, 22 Edw. I.—*From a Transcript, in the British Museum, Vol. I. p. 108.*]

TORVEYE, ABBATIS DE BEC.

IBIDEM invent' sunt ij equi caret' viij^s, pē' ejusl; iij^s.; Item iij^{or} affri xij^s, pē' ejusl; iij^s.; Item x boves lxvj^s. viij^l, pē' ejusl; di m're'; Item iij vacce' xx^s, pē' ejusl; di m're'; Item iij boveli vj^s, pē' ejusl; ij^s.; Item xlj porcē, quoz xxx sunt supanū, pē' ejusl; xvj^l, et xj sunt porcēl; pē' ejusl; vj^l, sm xlv^s. vj^d.; Itē xvij auc' iij^s, pē' ejusl; ij^d.; Item i gallus et v gallin', pē' vj^d.....

BEREFORD, ABBATIS DE BEC.

Item apđ BEREFORD ejusdem Abbis invent' sunt ij eqi affri x^s. pē' ejusl; v^s.; Item iij boves xxvj^s viij^d, pē' ejusl; di m're'; Item i vacce', pē' iij^s.; It' i gallus v gallin', pē' vj^d.....

No. XXV.

Extent of Priory lands in the parish of ST. NEOT'S; with the valuation of the appropriated Rectory of ST. NEOT'S, and of a portion of tithes in EYNESBURY, A. D. 1324.

[Exchequer Records respecting the Alien Priories, 18 Edw. II.—*From a Transcript, in the British Museum, Vol. I. p. 216.*]

PRIORATUS DE SĀO NEOTO.

EXTENT' t'raz et ten' ad Priorat' de Sāo NEOT' in Com̄ Hunt' spectant' fact' coram Jolie de Crek Milit' et Magrō Thoma de Garton Custod' domoz religiozoz alienig' in Com̄

Cant' et Hunt' p Dñm Regē assignat' apđ Sēm NEOT'
xxix^{no} Nov. Anno Regñ Reg' Edward' fil' Reg' Edward'
xviiij^{vo}.....

Fructus et herbag' cū ij Colūbar' que sunt in eodē Pri-
oratu valent p annū x^s. Et sunt ibidem in dñico v^c lvij
acre t're arabit' minor numero, et valet quelibet ac^a p annū
iiij^d.; s̄m ix^{li}. v^s. viij^d.: Itē sunt ibid' xx acre p'ti falcabit',
et valet queit ac' p annū xx^d.; s̄m xxxiiij^s. iiij^d. Et xx acr'
pastur' sepabit', et valet quelibet ac' p annū vj^d.; s̄m x^s. Itē
sunt ibm iij molend' aqtie', que valent p annū, salvis s̄vicij's
Dñoꝝ feodi, xxxvj^s. Itē ibidem de redditū assis' liboꝝ tenenē p
annū x^{li}. v^s. vj^d. Et etiam de redd' eoꝝdem i libr' pipis pe'
viij^d. Dicūt etiam qđ nundiñ et mēat' ibidem valent p
annū lx^s. Et placit' et pquisit' cur', cum visu F^anc' pleg',
valet p annū xl^s. &c.....S̄m tocus extent' sup̄dce lji^{li} vi^d.

Itm dicūt qđ p̄dcus Prior habet in Grangia sua de
HERDWYK herbagiū fruct^o et unā colūbar' que valent p
annū iij^s. iiij^d. Et sunt ibidem in dñico vj^c acr' t're arrabit'
minor numero, et valet quelibet ac^a p annū iiij^d.; s̄m vij^{li}. x^s.
Et sunt etiā ibidem in dñico iij acr' pastur' sepabit', et valet
quelibet ac^a p annū iiij^d.; s̄m xvj^d. S̄m toci^o extent' maner'
de HERDWYK, vij^{li}. xiiij^s. viij^d.

Itē dicūt quod Prior et Convent' de S̄co NEOTO habent
Ecciam pochialē de S̄co NEOTO in pp'ios usus; ad quam
q'dem Ecciam s̄ptant cxx acre t're arrabit' de quibꝫ dca
Eccia est dotata, et valet quelibꝫ ac^a p annū iiij^d.; s̄m xl^s.
Et dicunt qđ p̄dci Prior et Cōvent^o p̄cipiūt integre omēs
garb' decimal' infra limites dce pochie existent', et valent p
annū, salvis rep'sis autp̄at', xx m̄r, et nō plus, eo qđ sunt in
dca pochia quedam t're s̄tiles et inculte, et quedam t're p
frequentes pluvias et inundacōem aquaz' emerse; S̄m valor'
Eccie de S̄co NEOTO xv^{li}. vi^s. viij^d.

Item dicūt qđ p̄dci Prior et Cōvent^o hēnt qm̄dam por-
cōem garbaz' decimal' infra lymites pochie de LYNESBURY,
et valet p annū, salvis rep'sis autp̄alibꝫ, x m̄r; de quibꝫ
Prior et Cōvent^o de Newentm p̄cipiūt quolibet anno xiiij^s.
iiij^d. noīe p̄petue annue pensioñ; S̄m porcōnis p̄dce p verū
valorē vi^{li}.

Item dicūt qđ p̄centor dci Priorat^o habet in p̄dca villa de
S̄co NEOT' de quodm cto reddit' xvj^s. que intitulant' ad libros
inveniend' et reparand'.....

No. XXVI.

On the same, A. D. 1370.

[Exchequer Records respecting the Alien Priors, 44 Edw. III.—*From a Transcript in the British Museum, Vol. I. pp. 420, 421.*]

INQUISICIÓ capta.....apud S^{CM} NEOTU' xiiij^{to} die Ap^o anno regni Regis Edwardi t^{ci}j xliiij^{to}.....

[*Christianus de Troarno*] Prior de S^{CO} NEOTO Alienigena tenet in villa S^{CI} NEOTIS Prioratū ibm, in quo sūt quedam edificia que nichil val p annū ult^a reps'.

Set dicūt qđ fructus et h^obagium infra dē Prioratū val p annū xl^d. Itē dicūt qđ idē Prior tenet Eccēiam poehialē de S^{CO} NEOT' in pp^{os} usus, que val p annū xx^{li}, p^o minimas decimas ppetuo Vicario ibm debitas.

Itē dicūt qđ idē Prior tenet in dñico suo ibm vij^cxx aer' t^{re} arabit; quaz iij^clxxx val p annū xij^{li}, p^o aer' vj^d.; et ij^cxl aer' p^ocaz vij^cxx aer' t^{re} jacent ad warectū et in cōi, et nichil val p annū. Itm dicūt qđ idē Prior tenet ibm xl aer' p^{ti}, que val p annū iij^{li}, p^o aer' ij^s. Itm dicūt qđ idē Prior tenet ibm xl aer' past'e, que val p annū xij^s. iij^d p^o aer' iij^d. Itm dicūt qđ idē Prior tenet ibm tria molendina aquatica, que nichil val p annū, eo qđ p magna fluvia vastant et destrunt. It' dicūt qđ idē Prior tenet in eadē villa unū molendinū equinū, de novo reparatū, que val p annū v mare' vj^s. vij^l.; qđm p^oca iij molendina aquatica non repant. Itm dicūt qđ idē Prior tenet ibm de redditu assis' in manib; liboz tenenciū xx^{li}. iij^s. iij^d. Itm dicūt qđ idē Prior het de firma mēati ibm x^{em} [*libre?*]. P^oita et pquisita cur' ibm val p annū iij^{li}. vj^s. vij^l. Itm dicūt qđ idē Prior het unam p^oest t^{re} ibm vocat' ALMESLOND, que val p annū xxvj^s. vij^d. Et dicūt qđ sepat piscaria ibm val p annū xl^l.

Itm dicūt qđ idē Prior habet apud MONKESHERDWYK et WYNTRYNGHAM, in eodē Com in eadē poehia de S^{CO} NEOTO, unū messuagiū vocat' MONKESGRAUNGE; qđ quidm messuagiū nichil val p annū ult^a repris': et dicūt qđ fructus et hbagiū ibm val p annū xvij^d. Itm dicūt qđ idē Prior tenet ibm vij^cxx aer' t^{re}; quaz iij^clxxx aer' t^{re} val p annū vij^{li} p^o aer' iij^d.; et ij^cxl aer' t^{re} p^ocaz vij^cxx aer' t^{re} nichil valent p annū, q jacent ad warectū et in cōi. Itm dicūt qđ idē Prior habet ibm iij aer' p^{ti}, que val p annū vij^s, p^o aer' ij^s. Et dicūt qđ nulla pastura sepalis est ibm.....

No. XXVII.

Valuation of the Priory of ST. NEOT, A. D. 1534.

[“ Valor Ecclesiasticus” 26 Henry VIII. ; Record in the First-Fruits’ Office.]

DECANATUS SANCTI NEOTI IN COM̃ HUNTINGTON INFRA
DIOC’ EP̃i LINCOLN’.

MONASTERIU’ SIVE PRIORATUS SANCTI
NEOTI IN COM’ HUNT’ UBI JOHANNES
RAUNDES EST MODO PRIOR ET INCUBENS.

TEMPAL’

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Villa S̃ci Neoti. Valet in						
Reddit’ assis’ infra villam						
ibm per annu’	18	4	1 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Reddit’ ad voluntatem dñi						
ibm per annu’	32	19	11 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Reddit’ tenentiu’ in divs’						
Hamelet’ ibm videl’t						
Wynttingham Weld						
Caldecote Forda Tamys-						
forth Turvey et Colmorth						
p annu’	2	12	10 $\frac{3}{4}$			
Reddit’ in Wynttingham .	9	12	0			
Reddit’ divs’ Shop’ Mes’ et						
Tenementoz infra decan						
villam	9	6	4			
Firm’ iij molioz aquat’ cu’						
uno molend’ equino ibm						
p annu’	24	0	0			
Reddit’ molend’ ibm . . .	0	3	8			
Firma cõis pistrini . . .	1	6	8			
Firma Tolneti meat’ et						
nundinaz	9	6	8			
Reddit’ divs’ al’ ten’t infra						
Decan’ S̃ci Neoti . . .	5	4	5			
In toto p annu’ ut patz p va-						
lorē d̃ci Monaster’ super						
hanc declaration’ exaiat’ .	—	—	—	112	16	8 $\frac{1}{4}$

Coñ Bedd.	Valet in	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Reddit' assis' in divs' villis							
villat' et hamelett' in							
Coñ ibm videl't							
Eton		0	9	11			
Wibolston		0	7	0			
Forda		0	16	7			
Deuillhoo		0	9	0			
Begery		0	13	4			
Salteston		0	1	10			
Busshmed		0	4	0			
Everton		2	2	1			
Tetworth		0	7	10			
Thornecote		0	4	0			
Bayston		0	2	6			
Girtelford		0	0	5			
Sonday		0	2	1			
Kym'vyke		0	3	2			
Bedenhoo		0	2	8			
Reddit' tenene' custum'							
de Temysford pcell'							
Manij de Crendon . .		6	6	3			
Firm' terr' dñic' Manij							
de Crendon		2	0	0			
Reddit' et Firm' pertinen'							
Manio de Charleton .		13	15	11			
Firma Manij de Barford		2	0	0			
Firma Manij de Thurvey		5	0	0			
Minut' reddit' in Wibols-							
ton Forda Eton Deuil-							
hoo Colmorth Everton							
Crandon Tymesforth							
Caldecote et Colesden		1	6	7½			
In toto p annu'		<hr/>			36	15	2½
Com' Hunt'. Valet in							
Reddit' tenenciu' in divs'							
villat' jacen' videl't							
Haleweston Midlowe							
Paxton Magna cū Pax-							
ton Parva Bukworth							
Abbotisley Wersley Of-							
ford Dacy et Villa Hunt'							
p annu' prout in valore							
dei Monaster' plenius							
annotant' et declar'					2	17	9

Coñ Cantebr'. Valet in	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Reddit' et firm' infra divs'						
villat' ibm videl't						
Caxton	1	4	4			
Burne	1	1	4			
Gamlyngay . . .	2	3	4			
In toto p annu'	<hr/>			4	9	0
Coñ North't'. Valet in						
Reddit' et firm' divs' te-						
nēnt' in Barnewell per						
annu'				2	0	0
Coñ Rutland. Valet in						
Reddit' et firm' terr' et						
tenementoz in Wynges						
p annu'				4	5	4
Coñ Norff'. Valet in						
Firm' piscar' aque de Mar-						
cheforde per annu'				0	16	8
Coñ Suff'. Valet in						
Firm' Mañij de Upston						
cu' terr' dñic' per annu' .	2	0	0			
Reddit' in Cratefelde per						
annu'	0	1	6			
Coñ Essex. Valet in	<hr/>			2	1	6
Reddit' assis' divs' ten't' in						
Wymbisshe per annu'				1	8	5
Coñ Hertf'. Valet in						
Reddit' et firm' tenenc' in						
Westmyll per annu'				1	3	4
Terr' Dñic'. Valet in						
Terr' dñic' eidm Priori						
pertinen' cu' Grangia de						
Hardwyke, videl't In						
terr' arrab' qual't acra						
vj ^d cont' in numo iij ^c lx						
acr'	9	0	0			
Prat xxx acr' qua'ltacr' iij. ^s	4	10	0			
Pastur' inclus' xc arc'						
precio cuiuslt acr' xij ^d	4	10	0			
Pastur' jacent' ad larg' cxi						
acr' qua'lt acr' iij ^d . . .	2	6	8			
Firm' domus columbar'						
jacen' infra precinctu'						
Prioratus predei . . .	0	10	0			
In toto p annu'	<hr/>			20	16	8

Pquis' Cur'	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Pfitis et pquis' cur' teñt' infra dñia et maner' Prio- ratui ibm pñinent' una cum finibz terre coibz annis		2 13 4

SPŪAL'

Rector' appropriat' Valet in Proficuis provenien' de div's' Rectoris Prioratui predeo appropriat' et in div's' Com' jacen' videl't Ville Sçi Neoti in Coñi			
Hunt'	17	8	4
Everton in eodem Coñi	8	0	0
Hemyngton in Coñi			
North't'	2	0	0
Turvey in Coñi Bedd'	4	13	4
Upston in Coñi Suff'	1	6	8
Cratfelde in eodem Coñi Suff'	2	13	4
In toto p annu'	<hr/>		
	36	1	8

Penc' Annual'. Valet in Proficuis de div's' annual' pven' videl't de			
Rectorie de Temesford in Coñi Bedd' . . .	4	0	0
Rectorie de Clopton in Coñi North't' . . .	1	5	8
Rectorie de Brampton Dyngley in eode' Coñi	1	6	8
Rectorie de Croxton in Coñi Cant'	1	13	4
Rectorie de Barton Bendiche in Coñi Norff'	5	0	0
Rectorie de Hemyng- ham in Coñi Suff' . .	0	13	4
Rectorie de Wymbissehe in Coñi Essex . . .	4	0	0
In toto p annu'	<hr/>		
	17	19	0

Porción. Valet in	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Proficuis proven' pro por- cion' videl't de		
Rectorie de Enysbury in Coñ Hunt' p por- cion' decimarū . . .	3 6 8	
Decim' garbaž in Welde et Caldecote in eodem Coñ . . .	3 0 0	
Mağr' Collegij Corpīs Xpi Cant' p porcion' decimarū in Gran- cestř	1 6 8	
Decim' cert' claus' cū bosc' in Sudbury in Coñ Bedd'	1 13 4	
In toto p annu'	<hr/>	9 6 8
Summa totalis tam Temporalium quam Spūalium p̄dict'	£ 256	1 3 ½

INDE REPRIS'

Feod'. In Feod'		
Wifmi Gascoigne Militis Capital' Senesc' dict' Mo- naster'	1 6 8	
Thome Fitezhugh Subse- nesc' itm.	1 6 8	
Henrici Comber Audit' ejusdem Monasterij . .	1 6 8	
Thome Tony Baffi m̄reat' Ville S̄ci Neoti	0 6 8	
Rob'ti Hatley Baffi ejus- dem Ville	1 6 8	
Johñis Wilson Baffi sive Collect' reddit' in Coñ Hunt' North't' et Rut- land	1 6 8	
Johñs Clerke Baffi sive Collect' reddit' in Coñ Bedd' et Cant'	1 6 8	
Wifmi Trewelove Baffi sive Collect' reddit' in Coñ Suff' North' et Essex . .	0 6 8	
in toto per annu'	<hr/>	8 13 4

Reddit' resolut'	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
In Reddit' resolut' Dño		
Regi vocat' Pypesilver	0 1 0	
Eidm Dño Regi ad Hun-		
drū s' de Barford p		
annu'	0 1 0	
	<hr/>	0 2 0
Procurac' et Sinodal'		
Archño Huntington p		
peurac' et sinodal' Ec-		
clīaz Scti Neoti et Ever-		
ton	0 16 0	
Archño Bedd' p peurac'		
et sinod' medietat' Ec-		
clīe de Turvey . . .	0 5 3	
In toto per annu' . . .	<hr/>	1 1 3
Penc'.		
Priori de Newenham pro		
annua pencone exeunt'		
de Ecclia de Eyneshury		
in Com' Huntington		0 13 4
Elemos'		
Elemos' distribut' paupe-		
ribus ij temporib; anni		
videl't Diebus iij ^{or} tem-		
pu' ante Fest' Natal' Dñi		
Et primam sept' quad-		
rages ad orand' p aña-		
bis AYLRICI Comitis		
primi fundatoris dei		
Monaster' et ELFELDE		
Ux' ejus Nechon p ani-		
ma Dne ROHAYS fun-		
datrie' ibm Ac etiam		
RIC'DI DE CLARE Et		
aliorū Benefactorū ejus-		
dem Monasterij p annu'		4 0 0
Summa totalis Repris'		<hr/> 14 9 11
Et reman' clare	£	<hr/> 241 11 4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Inde pro X ^{ma} 24l. 3s. 1d. $\frac{3}{4}$		<hr/> <hr/>

No. XXVIII.

Valuation of the Priory of St. NEOT, A. D. 1540.

[Ministers' Account, 32 Hen. VIII.; Roll in the Augmentation Office.]

TERRE ET POSSESSIONES NUP MONASTERII
SCI NEOT' IN COM' HUNT' PTIN'.COMP'US THOME TUNNEY ET ROB'TI HATLEY REC' ET COLL'
REDD' ET FIRMA' IB'M P' TEMPUS P'DĒM.

Redd assis' Liboz tenen'm in Le Market	£.	s.	d.
Strete infra villam Sci Neot'	6	11	7
Redd liboz tenen' in Saint Mary Strete	1	11	9
Redd liboz et custum' tenen' in Cambridge			
Strete	3	5	6
Redd liboz et custumar' tenen' in Hunting-			
don Strete	3	3	9½
Redd Assis' liboz et cust' tenen' in High			
Strete	4	5	2½
Redd Assis' et Custum' tenen' nuper ptin'			
officio Sacriste	1	19	9
Redd Assis' et liboz et custum' tenen' infra			
villā Sci Neoti	25	5	3
Redd Assis' liboz et cust' tenen' in Bargrave	7	1	0
Redd terr' ad voluntm in Hardewike-felde	1	11	8
Redd terr' ad volunt' infra villam Sci Neoti	5	1	0
Firma Shopaz infra villam de Sci Neoti p'd'	7	5	4
Firma terr' infra Hamlet' de Wintringham			
infra pochiam Sci Neoti	9	19	4
Welde et Caldecote	1	2	4½
Firma terr' et teñtoz' in Forda	1	6	10
Redd Assis' lib' in Eton	0	14	0½
Redd Assis' liboz in Wiboldston	0	7	11
Redd Assis' liboz et custum' tenen' in Devillhoo	0	10	6
Staplo	0	0	9
Collysdon	0	0	8
Firma terr' divs' cum aī firmis	76	16	8
Redd mobil' manii Sci Neoti	0	2	0
Firma manii de Crandon	2	0	0
Redd Assis' liboz custum' tenen' et ad volun'			
manii de Crandon	6	8	10
Redd terr' et teñtoz' in Euton	2	11	3½
Redd Assis' liboz tenen' in Tetworth	0	6	1

	£.	s.	d.
Redd eustum' tenencium in Tetworth . . .	2	8	10
Redd Assis' liboz eust' tenen' et ad volun' in Mogerang ²	7	4	2
Redd' Assis' liboz et eust' tenen' et ad vol' in Charleton	6	6	4
Redd Assis' liboz tenen' et ad vol' in Sondae	0	3	9
Redd Assis' liboz tenen' in Beeston . . .	0	2	6
Redd Assis' liboz tenen' et ad vol' in Thorne- cote	0	6	8
Redd eust' in			
Barford	2	0	0
Begorey	0	13	4
Busshem[ede]	0	4	0
Caxton	1	11	0
Burne	1	1	5
Halyweston	0	3	8
Middelhowe	0	1	0
Paxton magn' et parva	0	6	0
Challeston	0	1	5
Buckeworth	0	7	10
Werisley	0	6	10
Abbotesley	0	18	0
Barnewell	2	0	0
Offord Dacye	0	13	4
Winge	4	5	3
Marche	2	6	8
Ubston	2	0	0
Westmyll	1	3	4
Wimbisshe	1	9	2½
Rectoria de			
Hemyngton'	2	0	0
Euton et Tetworth	8	0	0
Cratefield	4	0	0
Ubston	1	6	8
Thurvey	5	0	0
Pençoes, et Porc' de			
Priorissa de Harrold (hoc anno) . .	0	0	0
Rector' de			
Temysford	4	0	0
Clopton	1	5	8
Brampton Dingleye	1	6	8
Croxton	1	13	4
Barton Bendishe	5	0	0
He'nynghame	0	13	4
Wymbisshe	4	0	0
Eynesburye	3	6	8

Xmis in Grancestre de M ^{ro} et Sociis	£.	s.	d.
Col' Corp' X ^p i	1	6	8
Xmis in Welde et Calcote de Waltero			
Luke	3	0	0
Colmorthē	1	1	1
Villa Hunt'	0	1	0
Cratefeld	0	1	6
Re'te forinsece in Sudbury in pochia de Eton	1	19	5
Pquis' Cur ^o (<i>hoc anno</i>)	0	0	0
Summa totalis On ^{is} et Recept' p ^{re} dict'	£256	15	8

No. XXVIII. ‡

Extracts from Cardinal Pole's Visitation of the Diocese of Lincoln, for the re-establishment of Popery, in the reign of Queen Mary, August 1556.

[MSS.^a of Fox the Martyrologist; from which it was published in Strype's Memorials of the Reformation, Vol. III. Records No. L.I. p. 167.]

FAUCET, Sacerdos ac Pedagogus apud SC'UM * NEOTAM, notatur, q^d tenet quandam Elizabetham Williams, quam tempore Schismatis duxerat: antequam citatus fugit. Citata tamen Elizabeth comparuit. Cui a D^{no} est injunctum, ne de-cetero admittat d^{em} Faucet in suum consortium, quousq; divortium auct'e Ecclⁱe sit inter eos factum.

Injunctum est Parochianis SCE' NEOTIS q^d citra ultimum diem hujus mensis re-edificent omnia Altaria quæ ante Schisma fuerunt in eadem Ecclⁱa; impositione sive taxa in Parochianos ib^m facta. Iisdem etiam injunctum est q^d citra finem Pasche prox. re-edificent Crucifixorium cum Imaginibus ad hoc necessariis imposterum facta * ut prius.

^a It does not appear among the Foxian MSS. transferred by Strype to the Harleian Collection.

* So in Strype.

No. XXIX.

On the Great Bridge of ST. NEOT'S, A. D. 1588.

[MSS. Brit. Mus. Harl. 304. ff. 86 a.—87 a. The Original.]

A BRIEF of Two Inquisiçõs taken at Fordend of Eaton [*Eaton-Ford*] 19 Decembr A^o 31^o of the Queens Ma^a reign [31 *Elizabeth, A. D. 1588*], before the Reverend father Withm [*Wickham*] Bishopp of Lincoln, & others Commissioners to enquire of divers articles touching the state of the great Bridge of St Neotts, as followeth viz.

COM. BEDDS.

1. To the first Tho. Julian and others answereth that the long Bridge or Causye conteyneth in Length 704 feet, wherof 43 Arches wholly built of timber conteyne in

Length 448 feet

Bredth $10\frac{1}{2}$

29 Arches of tymber work of severall heighthes and lengths of 7, 9, and 12 feet apeece, built uppon a stone wall of 6 feet high, And conteyne in

Length 256

Breadth $7\frac{1}{2}$

2. The foundaçõn fit to be of stone so high as the waters comonly ryse in tyme of fludds, And will conteyne 44 Arches w^{ch} will require

3. Tymber 153 tonn 5 feet at xvj^s. viij^d.

the tonn Cxxvij^{li}. xij^s.

Stone 900 loads at xij^d. the loade xlv^{li}.

4. Lyme 138 chaldron at x^s. viij^d. lxxiiij^{li}. xiiij^s. iiij^d.

Carpenters & Sawers lxj^{li}. xviiij^d.

Sand 276 loads at vj^d. vj^{li}. xviiij^s.

Masonry l^{li}. xiiij^s. iiij^d.

Cariage of Timber 153 tonn. lxj^{li}. iiij^s.

Ston at ij^s. vj^d. Cxij^{li}. x^s.

Lyme at iiij^s. iv^d. xxiiij^{li}.

Overseers xiiij^{li}.

Dlxxv^{li}. xij^s. ij^d.

5. A^o 23 R^e. E. 3. [23 *Edw. III. A. D. 1349.*] the tenants of the manno^r of Eaton p^sented the Prio^r of St Neotts for

not repaying the Cawsey And payned him to repair it by a day.

Evidence given that one bequeathed xl^s. to the Prio^r of St Neotts towards repaire of the said bridge, whereby they suppose that the charge of the same belonged to the Prio^r. But whether in respect of the Priorye & possessions thereof or of the manno^r of St Neotts pcell of the same and now in her Ma^{ties} possession they know not.

That the Prio^r and Cōvent were possessed of divers woods wherevnto they had passage for their carts & cariags in by and through the said Bridge or Cawsye. But the Jury cannot say that he hath builded repaired or amended the same Bridge or Cawsye.

That th^e inhītants of St Neotts & well disposed people of the counties of Hunts, Bedds, & North. & divers other places, of their owne charge and libalitie, have synce the Suppression repaired, builded, and maynteyned the said Bridge and Cawsye vntill of late.

6. & 7. The Jury cannot directly answ^r. saving that th^e inhītants of Bedd^eshire be grevously burdened taxed and charged, wth money & cariage for repaire of divers great Bridgs.

Bedford- shire-men.	{	<p>Yet this not w^tstanding they will frely cary to the repaire of the said Bridge 400 loades of lyme stone or other necessaries except tymber. This cariag estemed at l^{li}. . . .</p>
------------------------	---	--

8. The Quenes Ma^{ties} hath no woods neerer then Warden 8 myles distant and whether those be sufficient for the repaire the Jurye referr the report to Her Ma^{ties} officers.

Twentie tonns of timber maie be had out of divers mens woods therabouts.

9. That a Towle or Taske may be raised for repaire of the Bridge uppon passengers not being of the counties of Hunts & Bedds: nor cōming to any marketts or fayres at St Neotts.

Every laden Cart or Wayne . . .	ij ^d .
Packhorse	ob.
Bullocks 20 and horned Cattell . .	iiiij ^d .
Sheep 120	xiij ^d .
Colts or Horses	ob.
Hoggs 20	iiij ^d .

And so after the rate.

COM. HUNTS.

1—6. Nicholas Sunborn and others saie as before in Com' Bedds.

[7.]	{	They wilbe content frely to		
Huntington-shire-men.		carye 153 tonn of timber w ^{ch}		
		amouñteth vnto	lxj ^{li} .	iiij ^s .
St. Neotts Towne.	{	They will digg 276 loades of		
		sand estemed at	vj ^{li} .	xviiij ^s .

[8.] Twenty tonn of timber may be had out of Her Ma^{ty} woods in the towne of Some^ysham.

Diverse Persons therabouts have woods wherout 88 tonns of Timber may be taken.

[9.] That a Towll or Taxe may be raised in manner as before.

Furthermore

To the 5 Article. The saide Commissioners do certifie that synce the fest of St Michael th' archangell Edward Payne Bailif of the manor of St Neotts hath at his owne costes & charg^s mainteyned the saide comon Bridge or Cawsey in repaire, w^{ch} doth amount (as by a bill therof appereth) to the somme of vij^{li}. viij^s. x^d.

Sm^a Totall of the whole
charges to be disbursed;
with vij^{li}. viij^s. x^d. alreadie
bestowed by Mr. Ed.

Payne Dlxviiij^{li}. j^s.

Wherof Ther is offered to
be disbursed by the men of

Bedfordshire l^{li}.

Hunts lxj^{li}. iiij^s.

St Neotts towne vj^{li}. xviiij^s.

Cxviiij^{li}. ij^s.

And so Remayneth clerely to be bestowed CCCClxiiij^{li}. xix^s.

Abstracted p Fo:Hiff Audi^l.

No. XXX.

Possessions of the College of ST. NEOT, A. D. 1086.

[Exchequer Domesday, Vol. II. f. 121 a; Chapter House, Westminster.]

CLERICI S' NEOTI ten' NEOTESTOV. 7 t'neþ T. R. E.
Ibi sť. II. hidæ. 7 nung geldauē. Ibi sť. III. bord. Vať.
v. solid. Totā hanc řrā pter unā acrā řræ quā p̃bri hñt ab-
stulit comes [*Moritonensis*] ab æceta. Odo ten' de eo. 7
uať. v. soť. p'us ualb. xx. soť. (A.)

[Exon' Domesday, f. 207. Archives of the Dean and Chapter of Exeter.]

Presbiteri de SCO NIETO. hñt. 1. mansionē que uocat'
Nietestou q". tenuit idē sčs ea die q^a rex E. f u 7 . m . In
ea sť II. hide řre 7 nūq^a redđřř Gildū. Ibi sť III. bord. 7 1.
bos. 7 xx. oues. & x. capræ. 7 ual& p annū v. soť. totā hanc
řrā preť. 1. agrū que p̃bitī hñt. absta^alit comes de moritonio
p̃dicto sčō. hanc ten& Odo de comite 7 ual& p annū v.
soť excepto sup^adicto agro. 7 q^odo Comes abstulit sčō
ualebat xx. soť. (B.)

No. XXXI.

Inscription over the Cenotaph of ST. NEOT (See p. 246.).

HIC olim noti jacuere relictæ NEOTI,
Nunc præter cineres nil superesse vides:
Tempus in hac fossa carnē cōsumpsit et ossa;
Nomen perpetuum SANCTE NEOTE tuum!

Consuming time NEOTUS' flesh
And bones to dust translated,
A sacred tomb this dust enclosed
Which now is ruined;
Tho' flesh, and bones, and dust, and tomb,
Thro' tract of time be rotten,
Yet NEOT's fame remains with us
Which n'ere shall be forgotten:—
Whose father was a Saxon King,
St. Dunstan was his teacher;

In famous Oxford he was eke
 The first professed preacher
 That there in Schools by quaintest terms
 The sacred themes expounded,
 Which Schools, by his advice, the good
 King Alfred well had founded.
 But in those days the furious Danes
 The Saxons' peace molested,
 And Neot forced was to leave
 That place so much infested
 With hostile spoils. Then AINSBURY
 His place of refuge was
 Within the Shire of Huntington,
 Where since it came to pass
 That for his sake the place from him
 Doth take its common name,
 The vulgar call it now ST. NEED'S
 Their market town of fame:—
 There Alfric built a Monastery,
 To NEOT 'twas behested,
 And Rosey wife to the Erle of Clare
 With means the same invested
 For maintenance in after times:—
 Where long he did not stay,
 But thence, enforced by furious Danes,
 He forward took his way
 To GUERRIER'S-STOKE, for his repose,
 This place, so called of yore,
 But now best known by NEOT'S name
 More famous than before;
 For why? A College here of Clarks
 He had whose fame encreased —
 When-as his corpse was clad in clay,
 And he from hence diseased
 Some say his bones were carried hence;
 ST. NEED'S will have it so,
 Which claims the grace of Neot's tomb;
 But hereto we say, No!

 THE END.

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